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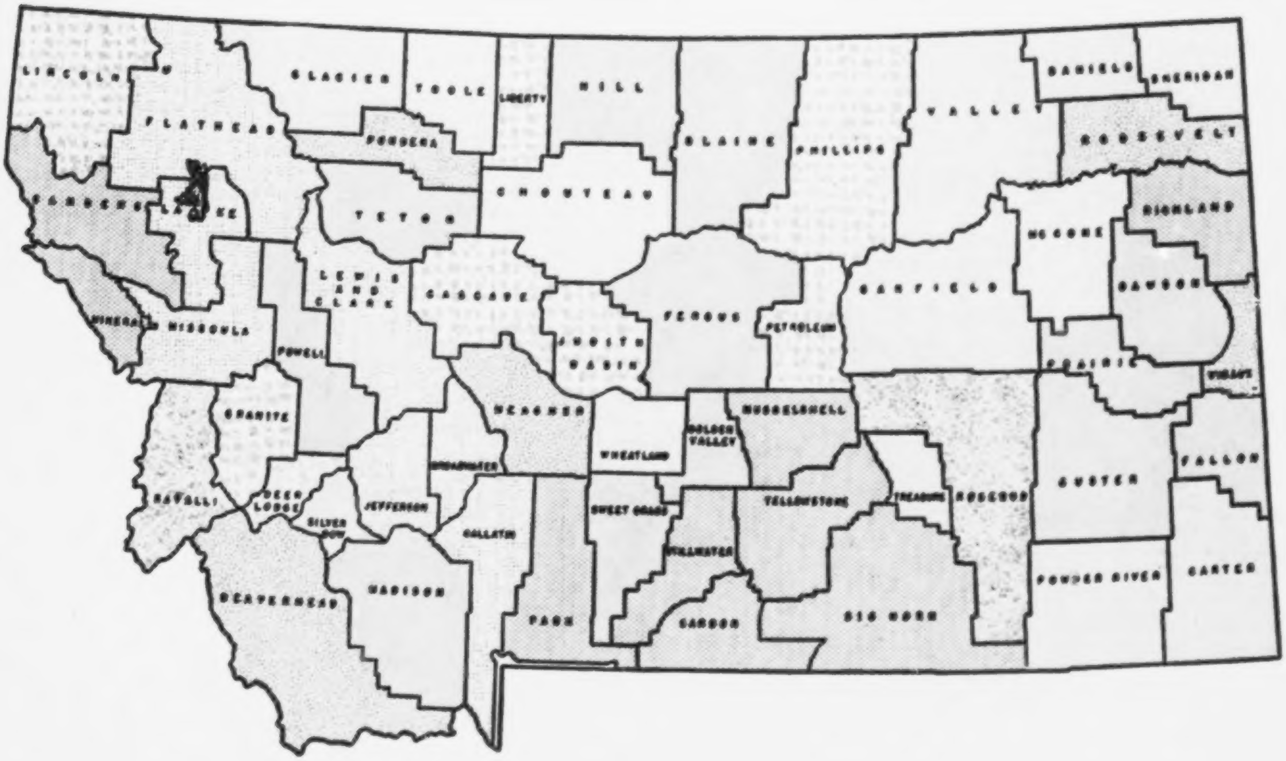
MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MARCH - 1981


LINCOLN
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LEWIS AND CLARK
CASCADE
JUDITH BASIN
FERGUS
PETROLEUM
GARFIELD
DAWSON
MINERAL
MISSOULA
POWELL
PRAIRIE
WIBAUX
GRANITE
MEAGHER
WHEATLAND
GOLDEN VALLEY
MUSSELSHELL
FALLON
BROADWATER
RAVALLI
DEER LODGE
JEFFERSON
SILVER BOW
SWEET GRASS
YELLOWSTONE
TREASURE
ROSEBUD
CUSTER
GALLATIN
STILLWATER
MADISON
BEAVERHEAD
PARK
CARBON
BIG HORN
POWDER RIVER
CARTER

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P.O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

The front cover indicates the 1970 to 1980 percent increase or decrease in population for the counties in Montana. Percentages are computed from the preliminary 1980 census figures. The code is:

▓	+ .1% to + 1.9%
▒	+ 3.3% to + 9.2%
■	+ 10.2% to + 24.2%
░	+ 29.2% to + 34.4%
▚	+ 55 % to + 66 %
▞	- .1% to - 2.7%
▦	- 4.6% to - 7.0%
▩	- 8.0% to - 11.8%
▙	- 20 %

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

March 1981

STATE OF MONTANA
TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID L. HUNTER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
FRED BARRETT, ADMINISTRATOR

Volume 11 - Number 3

Produced by:
Research & Analysis
in cooperation with the
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

For more information contact:
Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis Section
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-2430

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics X-11 variant of the Census Method II seasonal adjustment program.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six economic indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

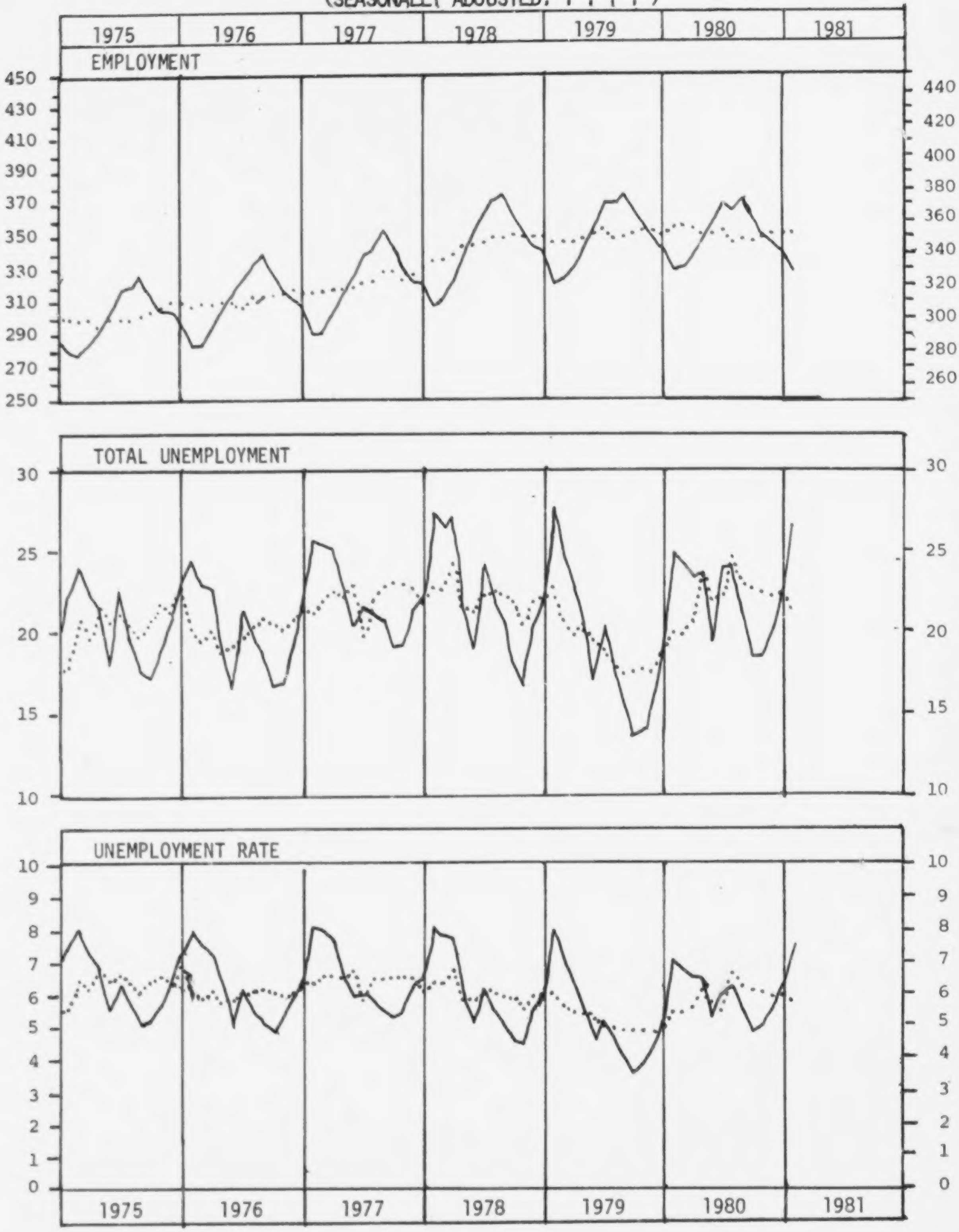
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ______)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: . . . . .)



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601

STATEWIDE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	361.3	354.6	356.4	6.7	4.9
Employment	333.8	328.1	332.6	5.7	1.2
Unemployment	27.5	26.5	23.8	1.0	3.7
Unemployment Rate	7.6	7.5	6.7	.1	.9

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

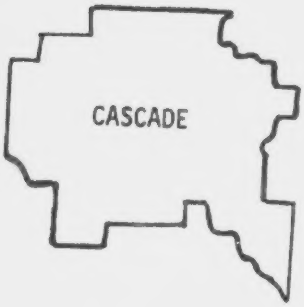
Farmers and ranchers who have been concerned about irrigation and stockwater supplies due to our low snowpack received some relief with a snow storm in mid-March. Drought conditions still exist, however, in the eastern part of the state. The winter wheat crop is greening up and its condition is fair. Cutworms have been infesting the crop in several counties in southeast Montana. Ranchers are busy with their calving and lambing operation which is about 30 percent complete. Sheep shearing is underway also and is about 45 percent complete.

Exploration for oil and gas continues to provide a positive push to Montana economy. A recent recommendation by the Forest Service will cause many existing lease applications to be processed and many new applications to be filed on federal lands. The recommendation that oil and gas leases be allowed on nonwilderness lands of the National Forest will free for leasing much of the Overthrust Belt that lies in Montana.

A six-year-old ban on selling state-owned coal overseas is coming under question at the legislature. In 1975, it was feared that all the coal on state lands would be shipped to Asia and the legislature then passed a law that decreed coal on state lands could not be leased to foreign owned firms. Many now feel that it would probably benefit the state to sell the coal. The company that the rule penalizes the most can lease oil and gas on state lands but not coal; also, some overseas countries are major buyers of other Montana products.

The budget proposals of the President will affect some major projects in the state. The previous administration proposed to spend $3.7 million on the Libby Dam. This will be cut back to $2.6 million. The funding for continuation of MHD research will be eliminated entirely under the proposed budget. Funding for the federally subsidized railroad will be concentrated on short-haul, high-density runs. This would appear to eliminate the passenger train that currently runs across northern Montana.

GREAT FALLS SMSA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	34.0	33.5	33.0	.5	1.0
Employment	31.1	30.8	30.7	.3	.4
Unemployment	2.9	2.7	2.3	.2	.6
Unemployment Rate	*8.5*	*8.1*	*7.0*	*.4*	*1.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The prime site for "Resource 89" is eight miles northeast of Great Falls. The 350 megawatt plant is to be completed by 1989 at a cost of a half billion in 1989 dollars. When completed, there will be about 160 permanent jobs and an annual payroll of $8.8 million. The power plant will provide a substantial increase to Cascade County's tax base--at current rates, it would yield about $10.6 million in property taxes. The utility that plans to build the coal-fired generating plant will file this fall for a construction permit under the Montana Major Facilities Siting Act. It will take about three years for the permit to be granted, if the request is successful. Construction on the plant will probably begin in 1985.

The peak construction force required by "Resource 89" will be about 1,000. This was encouraging to the labor force that for the last year has had one of the higher unemployment rates in the state; but work on the project will not begin for four years. In the meantime, the dollar amount for building permits issued for the city in February was $123,014 which appears to be a 13-year low. There was only one project of any size under way--a $4.8 million bridge over the Missouri River. The hope is that the utility project will encourage construction in the area before 1985, but tight money and high interest rates are currently dampening the outlook.

Plant closures and layoffs continue to keep the unemployment rate high. A firm that manufactures solar heating systems closed its factory at the end of February and 37 people were laid off for about a month due to lack of sales. The school district adopted a reduction in force plan that calls for the elimination of 72 full-time teaching positions. Sixty-two teachers were notified that they wouldn't be hired back next year. Those people who have been unemployed for a long time and are nearing or have reached the end of their regular unemployment benefits will not be able to receive extended benefits after March 7 since the extended benefit program "triggered off" at that time. The 350 workers that were laid off at the refinery at the end of September, however, will continue to receive $140 a week in benefits from the company for the next 26 weeks.

BILLINGS SMSA

YELLOWSTONE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	56.8	55.8	55.1	1.0	1.7
Employment	53.5	52.7	52.2	.8	1.3
Unemployment	3.3	3.1	2.9	.2	.4
Unemployment Rate	5.8	5.6	5.3	.2	.5

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A number of layoffs and business closures highlight economic activity in the Billings SMSA. Businesses are closing due to little activity and layoffs are either a result of these closures or a result of a slowdown in activity in each particular business.

Some businesses which are closing include a drug store, a finance company, a food store and a building supply store which is selling out. These will affect between 23 and 25 employees. A fire destroyed a cleaners which will leave nine employees temporarily without work.

One trucking firm has laid off six truck drivers and one manager, while at the same time, another trucking company is selling its trucks and going to an owner-operator lease agreement. This will affect up to 20 drivers if they cannot afford to buy the trucks. A sugar company has decided to lay off 200 seasonal employees. In the transportation sector, a railroad company has reported a 38% reduction of workers in the last twelve months, and at present, a regionwide hiring freeze exists.

A labor dispute continues between the machinists union and a car dealership. The mechanics have agreed to go back to work under the old contract, but the business will not accept this. They are using non-union personnel now. but will not settle except on their own dictations. The labor dispute started on July 15, 1980.

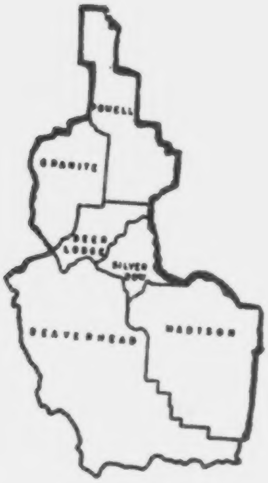
Some county employees are talking of not participating in the social security program. The employees who are thinking of not participating have been warned of all benefits that would be lost if they choose not to have social security taxes withheld.

BILLINGS SMSA (Cont.)

In the construction industry, there is quite a bit of activity. The zoning commission approved changes that will allow redevelopment of an area, which would replace 18 old homes with 55 new apartment units. A townhouse development on Custer Avenue will allow twenty-two 3-story, two bedroom townhouses to be built.

The City Council has approved a $50-60 million mall to be constructed near the 27th street exit to Interstate 90 in Billings. The project would involve 17.5 million square feet of retail space and should be completed by 1984.

ANACONDA-BUTTE



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	33.9	33.5	33.3	.4	.6
Employment	31.0	30.7	31.2	.3	-.2
Unemployment	2.9	2.8	2.1	.1	.8
Unemployment Rate	*8.5*	*8.5*	*6.3*	*0*	*2.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Anaconda Task Force, formed to oversee the distribution of funds donated to the city by the Anaconda Co. after the closing of the smelter, has granted three firms loans from this fund. Money was loaned to a foundry, which will employ at least 58 people. A boot manufacturing firm which hopes to open in mid-March and would employ about 30 persons was a recipient. The third firm is a cabinet making company which makes custom built shelving, counters and furniture.

The area received some bad news during this period. Trade Readjustment Act benefits were denied to those laid off with the closure of the smelter. The copper mining company is studying all mining operations due to the low price of copper. Production at the copper pit mine has been cut back resulting in the loss of 91 jobs. The proposed Reagan budget would cut the funding of MHD and would result in the closure of the $40 million plant employing 200 if passed by Congress.

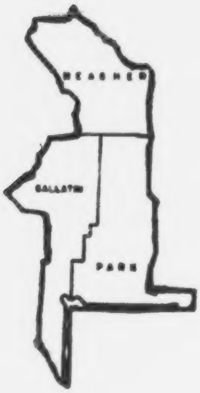
Two companies are looking into revitalizing gold mining in the Whitehall area. The proposed operations if shown to be feasible could employ several hundred area workers. A custom, closed circuit cyanide leaching plant for the recovery of silver and gold opened in Philipsburg. The mill would first test the ore at no charge to the miners. Testing would determine the mineral value and leaching time necessary for the ore. The cost for processing would be $39 a ton. The plant will operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week and could process 2,000 tons of ore per week. When the plant is in full operation following the construction of a flotation mill it should employ 60-70 persons.

Agricultural activity is dominating the news in the Dillion area. The county commissioners are encouraging the construction of a feed pelleting plant by sponsoring a million dollar industrial revenue bond issuance. If the bond is approved the proposed plant would be capable of producing 100 tons of feed pellets a day. The area farmers and ranchers would benefit by the plant. They would be able to use substandard grain for feed pellets rather than sell the grain at a lower price and then buy feed pellets. A certified seed potato grower has started processing seed potatoes for shipping. Twenty people were recalled or hired for this job.

BOZEMAN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	25.3	24.9	26.0	.4	-.7
Employment	23.5	23.2	24.2	.3	-.7
Unemployment	1.8	1.7	1.8	.1	0
Unemployment Rate	7.1	6.9	7.1	.2	0

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

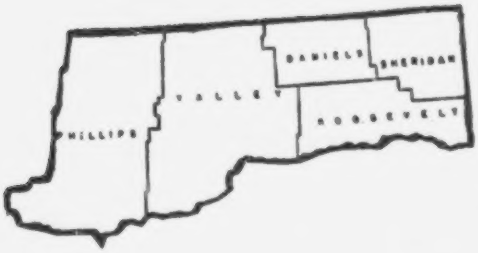
Exploration for oil and gas in Gallatin National Forest will probably increase as a result of a recent Forest Service recommendation that oil and gas leases be allowed on nonwilderness lands in the forest. There are applications on file for about 197,000 acres in the Gallatin Forest. Existing applications for 39,000 acres and lease applications for 99,000 acres will be processed as a result of this recommendation.

Construction work started again on the Health and Physical Education Center being built at Montana State University. The $1.38 million project was stopped in November due to irregular size brick being supplied to the contractor. Manufacturing activity picked up somewhat as two lumber mills reopened and a mobile home plant began working five day weeks again.

The production of alternative and renewable energy supplies looks favorable for this area. The first fuel alcohol plant in the state will make its initial runs of fuel grade alcohol this summer. At full production this still should produce 600,000 gallons of alcohol a year using 25 tons of milled barley a day. The by-products of this process are protein rich cattle feed and liquid fertilizer. The Bozeman Job Service is setting up a pre-employment training program for this firm. The wind farm in the Livingston area could be finished by this fall. The county commission and the city council have voted to grant approval of a site east of town. Design, construction and a two year break in will cost $355,000. Grants for the money have been applied for from the Environmental Protection Agency and Montana's renewable resources program.

Some increase in the demand for retail and service workers has been noted recently. The local Employment Service reports having openings for both part-time and full-time sales clerks. Motels have openings for room cleaners, and some restaurants have placed orders for food servers. A recently completed business district study in Livingston should provide the city with much needed information for future planning.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	16.1	15.5	15.7	.6	.4
Employment	15.2	14.7	14.9	.5	.3
Unemployment	.9	.8	.8	.1	.1
Unemployment Rate	*5.6*	*5.2*	*4.9*	*.4*	*.7*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

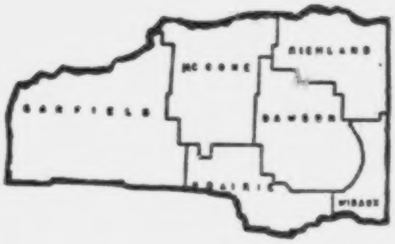
The first trainload of pipe to be used for a natural gas pipeline arrived at an area industrial park this period. The park will be used as a staging area for a pipeline project which will involve laying over 180 miles of pipe in three Montana counties. A work camp will be set up for over 500 workers involved in assembling the pipe which should be finished by this fall. Contractors for the project have been selected and hiring of workers will be done through craft unions.

An aircraft manufacturer remained in the area testing aircraft and training crews. These crews have been coming and going for quite awhile and a steady amount of activity is expected through the year. An average of 80 persons come with each crew and usually stay in the area six to ten days.

Oilfield exploration and drilling activity was erratic through the period as spring break-up hampered efforts to move equipment. Local Job Service officials report a surplus of out-of-town people looking for oilfield work.

Hotels and motels have been doing well lately due to a steady supply of oilfield workers and aircraft crews coming into the area. The addition of pipeline personnel should strain lodging and office space through most of the summer. While those businesses which serve the oilfield business have been doing well, those serving the agriculture industry are having a little tougher time. A lack of moisture and a generally depressed farm economy have hurt agriculture related businesses.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

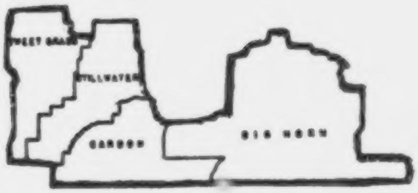
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	14.9	14.7	14.2	.2	.7
Employment	14.5	14.3	13.7	.2	.8
Unemployment	.4	.4	.5	0	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*2.7*	*3.0*	*3.7*	*-.3*	*-1.0*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Hiring activity was slow in all industry groups through the period. Even with good weather and several projects underway, most contractors still have not put on full crews yet. Openings in construction occupations are expected to increase quite soon, though. Activity in agriculture was also slow, as ranchers have been able to handle their feeding operations without extra help due to mild weather. When spring field work begins in a few weeks, however, some openings should be reported. Rain and spring break-up slowed oil drilling and exploration for about a week. Three new drilling rigs moved into the Sidney area along with a new firm which will specialize in moving drilling rigs. About 40 persons will be employed by the company.

Area Job Service offices continue to comment on the number of persons coming into the area seeking oil field work. Local supply has been satisfying the demand for workers in almost all occupations. Unless workers are highly skilled in some form of rig work, oil field related jobs are difficult to get.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	13.1	12.9	12.3	.2	.8
Employment	12.3	12.1	11.6	.2	.7
Unemployment	.8	.8	.7	0	.1
Unemployment Rate	6.5	5.9	5.9	.6	.6

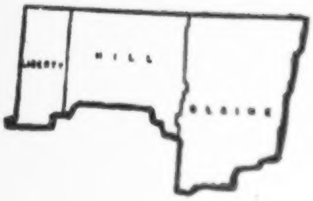
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Hard rock mining in the area is receiving more attention. Exploration for the platinum group metals in the Stillwater Complex is increasing. One company has filed for permission from the Forest Service to build a second exploratory adit in the Brownlee Creek area. Another company will begin core drilling in the area this summer. A bulk ore sample will be removed from the Crazy Mountains for an assay on gold content. The Forest Service has previously turned down a request to mine the Crazies because their assay of the ore projected too low a content of minerals.

The recent auction of oil and gas leases on state land included 9200 acres of Carbon County. The average bid for the leases in the county was $6, less than half the $12.64 which is the statewide average. The highest bid for an oil and gas lease in the county was $28 per acre for 440 acres in the Roberts-Boyd area. The Oil and Gas Conservation Board has approved the drilling of an 8,100 ft. test hole in the Madison formation near Belfry. At a depth of 10,000 ft. in the Frontier formation near Bearcreek the test hole is dry but the drilling will continue.

Energy producing projects for the area received some bad news this last month. Hardin finished a strong second, but only second, to the Great Falls area for the half-billion dollar coal fired generation plant known as Resource 89. Funding for a planned ethonal still near Big Timber may be more difficult to get with President Reagan's budget proposal. The good news however, is an energy company has applied for a preliminary permit to locate a 10 megawatt powerhouse at the Yellowtail Afterbay Dam. Engineering, environment and legal studies will be done at a cost of about $50,000 in the three year period after the granting of the preliminary permit.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	12.1	11.8	12.1	.3	0
Employment	11.2	10.9	11.3	.3	-.1
Unemployment	.9	.9	.8	0	.1
Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.3	6.7	.2	.8

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

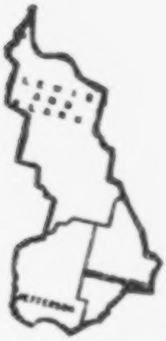
A plant that would manufacture gasahol from grain and other products is under construction on an area farm. The plant will use a still with a 300 gallon tank and will have six 250 gallon tanks. The plant will be a continuous flow operation utilizing barley and wheat. The residue from the barley will be used as cattle feed.

A local manufacturing firm is adding an additional shift. Welders and other craft workers are being hired for this shift.

The weather station at Havre will be closed if proposed cuts by the Reagan Administration are approved. It was included in the proposed closure of 38 forecasting stations throughout the U.S. The station provides weather information and issues severe weather warnings to northern Montana counties.

Agricultural hiring remains slow. There has been some activity due to calving. If the mild weather conditions continue, farm field work should generate some more activity.

HELENA LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	28.0	27.4	27.7	.6	.3
Employment	26.4	25.7	26.2	.7	.2
Unemployment	1.6	1.7	1.5	-.1	.1
Unemployment Rate	5.8	6.1	5.5	-.3	.3

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

An open pit gold mining operation is a possibility for the southern part of Jefferson County. Exploratory mining and an economical study are in progress and should be completed by mid-year. If the study shows the venture would be profitable it could mean employment of 100 to 150 people and a $2 million payroll.

Oil and gas leasing is possible on 650,000 acres of Helena National Forest according to a recent recommendation of the Forest Service. The Helena Forest has received more than 260 oil-gas lease applications in the last five years. More applications are expected as the search for oil and gas in the overthrust belt continues.

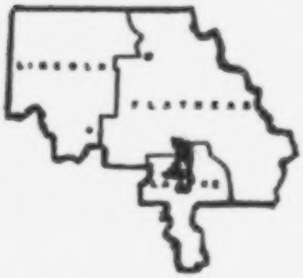
Construction work was down last year, hurt mostly by high interest rates. Three planned shopping centers in Helena were delayed by the economy. As the spring-like weather continues this year many construction workers are returning to work with the hope of a better year, which it could be if the planned projects are started. Work has begun on a $800,000 storm drain project. This is the first part of a program to improve the drainage on the city's west side. Bids were let in March for the $4.5 million York Bridge project. The city commission passed a resolution of intent to approve a $4 million industrial revenue bond for funding of a new office building in downtown Helena. A new $3 million hospital and clinic is being planned for Townsend. A motel in Helena has received the go ahead to double its size and become a first class convention center.

The lumber mills in the area are beginning to recall their workers according to the local Job Service. One mill which has been shut down since late last year was not sure when it would reopen. It was waiting for a piece of machinery to be repaired and thought it could possibly get back into production by the end of March.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	35.7	35.1	37.0	.6	-1.3
Employment	31.4	31.1	33.3	.3	-1.9
Unemployment	4.3	4.0	3.7	.3	.6
Unemployment Rate	*11.9*	*11.4*	*10.1*	*.5*	*1.8*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

At the aluminum plant in Columbia Falls, layoffs are continuing. Another 26 persons were laid off during this reporting period. This brings the total to 118 since December, 1980. According to a report, the reductions are due to the completion of a $42 million modification project. About 200 workers were added to the staff at the Columbia Falls plant when the project was begun in 1977. The same aluminum company plans to expand their casting facilities. This would allow the firm to expand into new markets of aluminum products. This change would require either the remodeling of the present casting plant in Columbia Falls, or a new facility would have to be constructed there.

The Young Adult Conservation Corps Camp at Lakeside closed its doors at the end of February. The program was cut out of the budget by the federal government. Enrollees will not be elligible for unemployment benefits. Forest service officials estimated that during the first year the camp returned about 94 cents worth of work for each dollar spent. This closure leaves 150 persons without jobs.

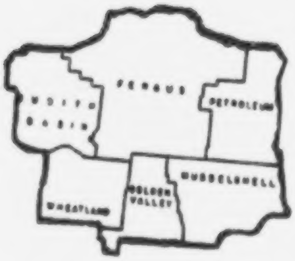
A T-shirt factory is to open in Kalispell. The owners of the operation said they would initially employ about 35 persons and will send T-shirts all over the United States. Another new business in the LMA is a brake shoe plant planned for Polson. The brake shoe fabrication plant is to open at the Polson Industrial Park next spring. The plant will employ six workers initially, most of which would be welders. Orders are expected to account for about 350 brake shoes per day.

Construction in the Kalispell area is very slow with a few new housing starts reported. Besides a few new homes, construction consists of an 84 unit townhouse at Lakeside which will be using a maximum of 60 full time construction workers.

The major wood products employer in the Libby area has gone to 4-day work weeks in order to control inventories. Logging has ceased due to spring breakup.

In the service industry, several drive-in restaurants have opened for the season. Also, it has been reported that there are some requests for waitresses, bartenders and nurses.

LEWISTOWN LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	9.7	9.5	10.0	.2	-.3
Employment	9.2	8.9	9.4	.3	-.2
Unemployment	.5	.6	.6	-.1	-.1
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.9	5.6	-.4	-.1

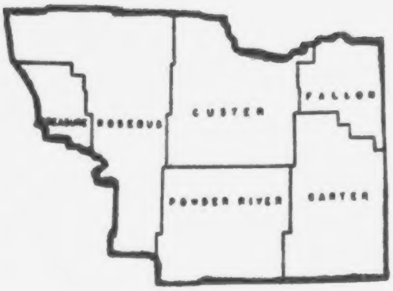
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Claims for unemployment insurance dropped through the period as workers were called back to work in several industries. Construction continued on several large projects--including a $1 million service/office complex due to open this summer--and warmer weather spurred hiring by other contractors who were previously shut down. Two manufacturing facilties in Lewistown maintained production and even called back some laid off workers.

Hiring activity in agricultural occupations increased as ranchers sought help for calving and also for spring field work which should begin soon. There was also some hiring in service industries due to an increase of meetings and conventions.

Mining activity is increasing in the area--especially at a sapphire mine and a gold mine. Exploration activity is expected to begin soon in the Kendall area.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	16.3	15.7	15.0	.5	1.3
Employment	15.3	14.8	14.3	.4	1.0
Unemployment	1.0	.9	.7	.1	.3
Unemployment Rate	5.5	5.5	4.7	0	.8

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The relatively mild winter continued to allow construction work to progress; however, the relatively moistureless winter has created a burden on local agriculture enterprises and other businesses that depend on agricultural prosperity. Further agricultural threats are coming from cutter worms and high egg count of grasshoppers. The cutter worms are very active eaters of young crops during weather conditions such as have persisted. The grasshoppers have ideal conditions to be of a large quantity to destroy agricultural land.

A coal mine labor dispute was settled after a 30 day work stoppage. The settlement gave the mine workers about a 30 percent increase over the three year contract.

The bankrupt railroad right-of-way from Miles City to the Idaho border is for sale and purchase is being considered by the state of Montana. Also for sale are bridges, tunnels and railroad tracks.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From:	
				Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	48.9	48.2	48.7	.7	.2
Employment	43.8	43.3	44.6	.5	-.8
Unemployment	5.1	4.9	4.1	.2	1.0
Unemployment Rate	*10.5*	*10.3*	*8.4*	*.2*	*2.1*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Missoula area is continuing their sluggish economic environment. Sawmills have cut back even more employment and now the spring thaw is reducing further workers in the logging aspects of the lumber and woods industry. In Missoula, a sheet metal company went defunct and added 50 people to the list of unemployed. Many laid-off construction workers are looking for employment in other parts of the state because most local major projects are close to completion. In the near future, construction is expected to be slow.

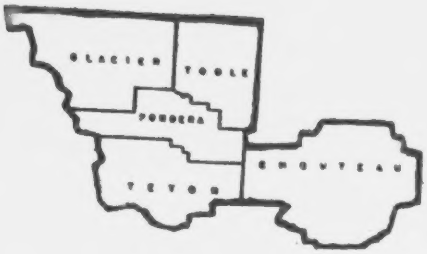
Employment activity has been reported revolving around clerical openings of a temporary nature. Four new businesses are scheduled to open in March at the newly constructed Frenchtown Mall. It is anticipated that about twenty-five jobs will be provided by the new restaurant, grocery store, hardware store, and liquor store. Retail stores reported sales have leveled off and are still below last year.

Agricultural activity continues to be quite involved with calving and now spring plowing is increasing. The spring storms are creating a burden for area ranchers.

SHELBY - CUT BANK LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	16.4	16.2	16.1	.2	.3
Employment	15.3	15.1	15.0	.2	.3
Unemployment	1.1	1.1	1.1	0	0
Unemployment Rate	6.7	6.8	6.7	-.1	0

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activity in the Shelby - Cut Bank Area consists of some construction, additional oilfield work, and some agricultural work as the weather has permitted some field work to begin.

In the Construction industry there are plans for a new train loading station at Tiber. A trading company reports that the facility will have a total capacity of 500,000 bushels capable of loading 52 car unit trains in a ten-hour period. The cost of the facility is estimated at $1 million and construction is planned to be completed for the 1981 harvest. Unseasonable warm weather has allowed construction to progress rapidly on the new bank building in Cut Bank. In Shelby the retirement housing project is nearing completion along with the new hospital. Plans are being made for a senior center to be built in Shelby.

In Cut Bank there is a new auto supply store and business at the motels and hotels is reported as being good. Oilfield activity has been picking up as seismograph crews move in from Canada and new drilling sites are being developed.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Insured Unemployment*		
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Non-White	*15.7%*	*14.5%*	*14.9%*
Female	*19.0%*	*17.8%*	*18.1%*
Youth	*5.2%*	*4.8%*	*6.8%*
Over 45	*21.6%*	*21.8%*	*22.0%*

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. [1]

All Items

(1967 = 100)

	1979		1980		1981	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	204.7	204.7	233.2	233.3	260.5	260.7
February	207.1	207.1	236.4	236.5	263.2	263.5
March	209.1	209.3	239.8	239.9		
April	211.5	211.8	242.5	242.6		
May	214.1	214.3	244.9	245.1		
June	216.6	216.9	247.6	247.8		
July	218.9	219.4	247.8	248.0		
August	221.1	221.5	249.4	249.6		
September	223.4	223.7	251.7	251.9		
October	225.4	225.6	253.9	254.1		
November	227.5	227.6	256.2	256.4		
December	229.9	230.0	258.4	258.7		
AVERAGE	217.4	217.7	246.8	247.0		

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[1] *The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.*

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table I

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] Montana	Percent[1] U. S.	
1979								
January	348.7	321.0	299.5	21.3	27.7	*7.9*	*6.4*	*
February	349.2	324.6	301.4	23.2	24.6	*7.1*	*6.4*	1.1
March	353.7	331.1	303.3	27.8	22.6	*6.4*	*6.1*	*
April	364.2	343.8	309.6	34.2	20.4	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
May	373.0	356.0	320.7	35.3	17.0	*4.6*	*5.2*	.1
June	391.6	371.2	331.0	40.2	20.4	*5.2*	*6.0*	.1
July	388.5	370.9	327.9	43.0	17.6	*4.5*	*5.8*	*
August	391.1	375.4	329.4	46.0	15.7	*4.0*	*5.9*	.1
September	381.0	367.4	331.5	35.9	13.6	*3.6*	*5.6*	*
October	371.1	357.2	326.7	30.5	13.0	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
November	365.3	349.7	323.5	26.2	15.6	*4.3*	*5.6*	*
December	362.6	343.8	321.2	22.6	18.8	*5.2*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
1980								
January	354.8	329.9	309.1	20.8	24.9	*7.0*	*6.8*	.7
February	356.4	332.6	310.0	22.6	23.8	*6.7*	*6.8*	1.1
March	363.0	339.6	312.4	27.2	23.4	*6.5*	*6.6*	.7
April	370.7	347.2	313.8	33.4	23.5	*6.4*	*6.6*	.3
May	377.1	357.6	323.2	34.4	19.5	*5.2*	*7.0*	.2
June	394.7	370.9	331.7	39.2	23.8	*6.0*	*7.8*	.2
July	390.4	366.3	324.3	42.0	24.1	*6.2*	*7.9*	2.7
August	393.8	372.7	327.8	44.9	21.1	*5.4*	*7.5*	2.6
September	381.5	363.0	328.0	35.0	18.5	*4.8*	*7.1*	3.1
October	372.2	353.7	323.9	29.8	18.4	*5.0*	*7.1*	1.3
November	368.4	348.3	322.7	25.6	20.1	*5.5*	*7.1*	1.3
December	364.7	342.1	320.1	22.0	22.6	*6.2*	*6.9*	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	*6.0*	*7.1*	1.2
1981								
January	354.6	328.1	307.3	20.8	26.5	*7.5*	*8.2*	*
February	361.3	333.8	311.7	22.1	27.5	*7.6*	*8.0*	*1.0*
March	*363.8*	*336.9*	*310.4*	*26.5*	*26.9*	*7.4*		*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

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[1] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
[2] *Non-additive - included in total employment.*
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

RESIDENCE DATA

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table II
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent* 1/		
						County	State	
1979								
January	33.3	30.2	29.4	.8	3.1	9.4	7.9	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	8.3	7.1	*
March	33.5	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.5	7.5	6.4	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.2	6.5	5.6	*
May	34.4	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.9	5.5	4.6	*
June	35.1	32.9	31.3	1.6	2.2	6.2	5.2	*
July	35.0	32.9	31.2	1.7	2.1	6.0	4.5	*
August	35.0	33.1	31.3	1.8	1.9	5.5	4.0	*
September	34.5	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.7	4.8	3.6	*
October	33.3	31.9	30.7	1.2	1.4	4.1	3.8	*
November	33.2	31.4	30.4	1.0	1.8	5.4	4.3	*
December	32.9	31.0	30.1	.9	1.9	5.7	5.2	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	33.0	30.5	29.7	.8	2.5	7.7	7.0	*
February	33.0	30.7	29.8	.9	2.3	7.0	6.7	*
March	33.7	31.5	30.4	1.1	2.2	6.6	6.5	*
April	33.5	31.4	30.1	1.3	2.1	6.3	6.4	*
May	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	5.6	5.2	.2
June	34.8	32.1	30.5	1.6	2.7	7.7	6.0	.2
July	35.3	32.6	30.9	1.7	2.7	7.8	6.2	.5
August	35.5	33.1	31.3	1.8	2.4	6.8	5.4	.4
September	34.8	32.7	31.5	1.2	2.1	6.0	4.8	.4
October	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.2	2.3	6.9	5.0	*
November	34.1	31.7	30.7	1.0	2.4	7.0	5.5	*
December	34.0	31.5	30.5	1.0	2.5	7.3	6.2	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.0	.2
1981								
January	33.5	30.8	30.0	.8	2.7	8.1	7.5	*
February	34.0	31.1	30.2	.9	2.9	8.5	7.6	*
March	*34.1*	*31.2*	*30.2*	*1.0*	*2.9*	*8.5*	*7.4*	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table III
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent1/*		
						County	State	
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	6.0	7.9	*
February	53.0	50.3	49.2	1.1	2.7	5.1	7.1	*
March	53.0	50.6	49.3	1.3	2.4	4.5	6.4	*
April	54.2	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.1	3.8	5.6	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	3.1	4.6	*
June	57.2	55.0	53.2	1.8	2.2	3.8	5.2	*
July	56.0	54.2	52.2	2.0	1.8	3.2	4.5	*
August	57.0	55.3	53.2	2.1	1.7	3.0	4.0	*
September	56.3	54.8	53.2	1.6	1.5	2.6	3.6	*
October	55.7	54.2	52.8	1.4	1.5	2.6	3.8	*
November	55.7	54.0	52.8	1.2	1.7	3.1	4.3	*
December	55.3	53.3	52.3	1.0	2.0	3.7	5.2	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	54.9	52.0	51.0	1.0	2.9	5.3	7.0	.6
February	55.1	52.2	51.2	1.0	2.9	5.3	6.7	.7
March	55.4	52.5	51.3	1.2	2.9	5.3	6.5	.3
April	55.5	53.0	51.5	1.5	2.5	4.4	6.4	*
May	56.1	54.0	52.4	1.6	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	58.5	55.6	53.8	1.8	2.9	5.0	6.0	*
July	57.8	54.9	53.0	1.9	2.9	5.0	6.2	*
August	58.2	55.6	53.5	2.1	2.6	4.5	5.4	*
September	57.7	55.4	54.0	1.4	2.3	4.0	4.8	*
October	57.2	55.0	53.6	1.4	2.2	3.8	5.0	*
November	57.0	54.8	53.6	1.2	2.2	3.8	5.5	*
December	57.3	54.7	53.7	1.0	2.6	4.5	6.2	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	4.6	6.0	.1
1981								
January	55.8	52.7	51.8	.9	3.1	5.6	7.5	*
February	56.8	53.5	52.5	1.0	3.3	5.8	7.6	*
March	*56.4*	*53.4*	*52.2*	*1.2*	*3.0*	*5.3*	*7.4*	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*
** Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV
MONTANA
Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month from: Feb. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS1/	361.3	354.6	356.4	6.7	4.9
EMPLOYED PERSONS	333.8	328.1	332.6	5.7	1.2
Persons Employed in Agriculture	22.1	20.8	22.6	1.3	-.5
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	27.5	26.5	23.8	1.0	3.7
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted2/	*7.6*	*7.5*	*6.7*	*.1*	*.9*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted2/	*6.2*	*5.7*	*5.3*	*.5*	*.9*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	*274.0*	*275.8*	*273.0*	*-1.8*	*1.0*
MANUFACTURING	*22.4*	*23.0*	*24.7*	*-.6*	*-2.3*
Durable Goods	*13.5*	*13.9*	*16.9*	*-.4*	*-3.4*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*8.8*	*9.1*	*9.7*	*-.3*	*-.9*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*1.8*	*2.0*	*3.1*	*-.2*	*-1.3*
Other Durable Goods	*2.9*	*2.8*	*3.4*	*.1*	*-.5*
Nondurable Goods	*8.9*	*9.0*	*8.8*	*-.1*	*.1*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*3.9*	*4.0*	*4.1*	*-.1*	*-.2*
27 Printing and Publishing	*2.3*	*2.3*	*2.2*	*0*	*.1*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.0*	*1.0*	*.8*	*0*	*.2*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.6*	*0*	*.1*
MINING	*7.6*	*7.9*	*8.0*	*-.3*	*-.4*
10 Metal Mining	*1.6*	*1.6*	*2.1*	*0*	*-.5*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	*2.2*	*2.5*	*2.1*	*-.3*	*.1*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*3.9*	*3.9*	*3.8*	*0*	*.1*
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	*11.8*	*12.1*	*11.3*	*-.3*	*.5*
15 General Building Contractors	*3.8*	*3.8*	*3.9*	*0*	*-.1*
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	*2.8*	*2.9*	*2.2*	*-.1*	*.6*
17 Special Trade Contractors	*5.3*	*5.4*	*5.2*	*-.1*	*.1*
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	*23.4*	*23.5*	*22.5*	*-.1*	*.9*
40 Railroad Transportation	*7.5*	*7.5*	*6.9*	*0*	*.6*
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	*6.2*	*6.3*	*6.4*	*-.1*	*-.2*
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	*9.7*	*9.8*	*9.1*	*-.1*	*.6*
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	*69.9*	*70.3*	*69.8*	*-.4*	*.1*
Wholesale Trade	*17.8*	*17.8*	*17.3*	*0*	*.5*
Retail Trade	*52.1*	*52.6*	*52.4*	*-.5*	*-.3*
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	*7.7*	*8.0*	*8.1*	*-.3*	*-.4*
54 Food Stores	*7.8*	*7.8*	*7.7*	*0*	*.1*
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	*7.6*	*7.6*	*7.8*	*0*	*-.2*
58 Eating and Drinking Places	*18.5*	*18.5*	*18.3*	*0*	*.2*
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	*10.6*	*10.7*	*10.6*	*-.1*	*0*
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	*12.7*	*12.7*	*12.6*	*0*	*.1*
SERVICES	*55.8*	*55.5*	*54.0*	*.3*	*1.8*
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	*6.2*	*6.1*	*6.2*	*.1*	*0*
72 Personal Services	*2.7*	*2.7*	*2.6*	*0*	*.1*
80 Medical and other Health Services	*18.8*	*18.7*	*17.9*	*.1*	*.9*
Other Services	*28.0*	*28.0*	*27.4*	*0*	*.6*
GOVERNMENT	*70.3*	*70.7*	*70.1*	*-.4*	*.2*
91 Federal Government	*12.9*	*13.0*	*12.5*	*-.1*	*.4*
92 State Colleges and Universities	*8.2*	*8.2*	*8.3*	*0*	*-.1*
92 Other State Government	*10.6*	*10.8*	*10.6*	*-.2*	*0*
93 Local Education	*24.2*	*24.2*	*25.0*	*0*	*-.8*
93 Other Local Government	*14.4*	*14.4*	*13.7*	*0*	*.7*

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(*Establishment Data in italics*)

TABLE V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month from: Feb. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/	34.0	33.5	33.0	.5	1.0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	31.1	30.8	30.7	.3	.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	.9	.8	.9	.1	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.9	2.7	2.3	.2	.6
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/	*8.5*	*8.1*	*7.0*	*.4*	*1.5*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/	*7.5*	*6.3*	*6.0*	*1.2*	*1.5*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	28.7	28.8	28.8	-.1	-.1
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.6	0	-.3
Contract Construction	1.2	1.3	1.2	-.1	0
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.9	1.9	1.9	0	0
Trade	9.3	9.5	9.3	-.2	0
Wholesale Trade	2.9	2.9	2.8	0	.1
Retail Trade	6.4	6.5	6.5	-.1	-.1
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	-.1
Services and Mining	7.0	6.9	6.9	.1	.1
Government	6.0	6.0	5.8	0	.2
Federal Government	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
State and Local Government	4.2	4.3	4.0	-.1	.2

---

[1] *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

[2] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Current month preliminary *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks*

TABLE VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Jan. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month from: Feb. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	56.8	55.8	55.1	1.0	1.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	53.5	52.7	52.2	.8	1.3
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.0	.9	1.0	.1	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.3	3.1	2.9	.2	.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*5.8*	*5.6*	*5.3*	*.2*	*.5*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*4.8*	*4.2*	*4.4*	*.6*	*.4*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	46.7	46.8	45.8	-.1	.9
Manufacturing	4.0	4.2	4.1	-.2	-.1
Contract Construction	2.0	2.0	2.0	0	0
Transportation and Public Utilties	4.8	4.8	4.5	0	.3
Trade	15.5	15.5	15.6	0	-.1
Wholesale Trade	5.7	5.7	5.6	0	.1
Retail Trade	9.8	9.8	10.0	0	-.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.2	2.3	2.2	-.1	0
Services and Mining	10.2	10.0	9.6	.2	.6
Government	8.0	8.0	7.7	0	.3
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
State and Local Government	6.5	6.4	6.2	.1	.3

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[1] *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

[2] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Current month preliminary *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks*

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE[3]		
	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1981
STATEWIDE	364.7	354.6	361.3	342.1	328.1	333.8	22.6	26.5	27.5	6.2	7.5	7.6
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.0	33.5	34.0	31.5	30.8	31.1	2.5	2.7	2.9	7.3	8.1	8.5
BILLINGS SMSA	57.3	55.8	56.8	54.7	52.7	53.5	2.6	3.1	3.3	4.5	5.6	5.8
BALANCE OF STATE[2]	273.6	265.3	270.4	256.0	244.7	249.1	17.6	20.6	21.3	6.4	7.8	7.9
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.2	33.5	33.9	32.5	30.7	31.0	2.7	2.8	2.9	7.6	8.5	8.5
BOZEMAN	25.5	24.9	25.3	24.0	23.2	23.5	1.5	1.7	1.8	5.8	6.9	7.1
GLASGOW	16.0	15.5	16.1	15.3	14.7	15.2	.7	.8	.9	4.4	5.2	5.6
GLENDIVE	15.3	14.7	14.9	14.9	14.3	14.5	.4	.4	.4	2.3	3.0	2.7
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.5	12.9	13.1	12.8	12.1	12.3	.7	.8	.8	5.3	5.9	6.5
HAVRE	12.1	11.8	12.1	11.4	10.9	11.2	.7	.9	.9	6.2	7.3	7.5
HELENA	28.0	27.4	28.0	26.5	25.7	26.4	1.5	1.7	1.6	5.2	6.1	5.8
KALISPELL	36.3	35.1	35.7	33.0	31.1	31.4	3.3	4.0	4.3	9.1	11.4	11.9
LEWISTOWN	9.7	9.5	9.7	9.3	8.9	9.2	.4	.6	.5	4.5	5.9	5.5
MILES CITY	16.3	15.7	16.3	15.6	14.8	15.3	.7	.9	1.0	4.4	5.5	5.5
MISSOULA	48.9	48.2	48.9	44.9	43.3	43.8	4.0	4.9	5.1	8.2	10.3	10.5
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.7	16.2	16.4	15.7	15.1	15.3	1.0	1.1	1.1	5.8	6.8	6.7

[1] *A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.*

[2] *Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.*

[3] *Unemployment rate computed on whole numbers.*

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			[3] UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Change 1980-1981	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Change 1980-1981
STATEWIDE	361.3	356.4	*1.4*	333.8	332.6	*.4*	27.5	23.8	*3.7*	7.6	6.7	*.9*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.0	33.0	*3.0*	31.1	30.7	*1.3*	2.9	2.3	*.4*	8.5	7.0	*1.5*
BILLINGS SMSA	56.8	55.1	*3.1*	53.5	52.2	*2.5*	3.3	2.9	*.4*	5.8	5.3	*.5*
BALANCE OF STATE[2]	270.4	268.2	*.8*	249.1	249.7	*-.2*	21.3	18.5	*2.8*	7.9	6.9	*1.0*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.9	33.3	*1.8*	31.0	31.2	*-.6*	2.9	2.1	*.8*	8.5	6.3	*2.2*
BOZEMAN	25.3	26.0	*-2.7*	23.5	24.2	*-2.9*	1.8	1.8	*0*	7.1	7.1	*0*
GLASGOW	16.1	15.7	*2.6*	15.2	14.9	*2.0*	.9	.8	*.1*	5.6	4.9	*.7*
GLENDIVE	14.9	14.2	*4.9*	14.5	13.7	*4.4*	.4	.5	*-.1*	2.7	3.7	*-1.0*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.1	12.3	*6.5*	12.3	11.6	*6.0*	.8	.7	*.1*	6.5	5.9	*.6*
HAVRE	12.1	12.1	*0*	11.2	11.3	*-.9*	.9	.8	*.1*	7.5	6.7	*.8*
HELENA	28.0	27.7	*1.1*	26.4	26.2	*.8*	1.6	1.5	*.1*	5.8	5.5	*.3*
KALISPELL	35.7	37.0	*-3.5*	31.4	33.3	*-4.5*	4.3	3.7	*.6*	11.9	10.1	*1.8*
LEWISTOWN	9.7	10.0	*-3.0*	9.2	9.4	*-2.1*	.5	.6	*.1*	5.5	5.6	*-.1*
MILES CITY	16.3	15.0	*8.6*	15.3	14.3	*7.0*	1.0	.7	*.2*	5.5	4.7	*.8*
MISSOULA	48.9	48.7	*0.4*	43.8	44.6	*-1.8*	5.1	4.1	*1.0*	10.5	8.4	*2.1*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.4	16.1	*1.9*	15.3	15.0	*2.0*	1.1	1.1	*0*	6.7	6.7	*0*

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[1] *A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.*

[2] *Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.*

[3] *Unemployment Rate computed on whole numbers.*

TABLE IX-A

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

FEBRUARY 1981

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	361272	333806	27466	7.6
CASCADE	34043	31156	2887	8.5
YELLOWSTONE	56814	53527	3287	5.8
BEAVERHEAD	3945	3731	214	5.4
BIG HORN	5516	5083	433	7.8
BLAINE	2661	2376	285	10.7
BROADWATER	1268	1155	113	8.9
CARBON	3327	3147	180	5.4
CARTER	717	702	15	2.1
CHOUTEAU	2624	2556	68	2.6
CUSTER	6157	5780	377	6.1
DANIELS	1345	1266	79	5.9
DAWSON	5710	5526	184	3.2
DEER LODGE	4778	3915	863	18.1
FALLON	2280	2238	42	1.8
FERGUS	5482	5149	333	6.1
FLATHEAD	21990	19568	2422	11.0
GALLATIN	18657	17524	1133	6.1
GARFIELD	759	749	10	1.3
GLACIER	5392	4750	642	11.9
GOLDEN VALLEY	345	327	18	5.2
GRANITE	1100	1018	82	7.5
HILL	8401	7814	587	7.0
JEFFERSON	2311	2139	172	7.4
JUDITH BASIN	997	947	50	5.0
LAKE	7267	6557	710	9.8
LEWIS AND CLARK	24409	23066	1343	5.5
LIBERTY	1042	1012	30	2.9
LINCOLN	6403	5277	1126	17.6
MC CONE	1066	1046	20	1.9
MADISON	2122	1981	141	6.6
MEAGHER	1010	916	94	9.3
MINERAL	1841	1618	223	12.1
MISSOULA	36044	32647	3397	9.4
MUSSELSHELL	1524	1457	67	4.4
PARK	5590	5012	578	10.3
PETROLEUM	267	245	22	8.2
PHILLIPS	2937	2772	165	5.6
PONDERA	3359	3213	146	4.3
POWDER RIVER	1068	1042	26	2.4
POWELL	3565	3335	230	6.5
PRAIRIE	785	753	32	4.1
RAVALLI	7163	6157	1006	14.0
RICHLAND	5992	5855	137	2.3
ROOSEVELT	4713	4429	284	6.0
ROSEBUD	5615	5194	421	7.5
SANDERS	3903	3408	495	12.7
SHERIDAN	2893	2857	36	1.2
SILVER BOW	18383	17018	1365	7.4
STILLWATER	2600	2427	173	6.7
SWEET GRASS	1652	1591	61	3.7
TETON	2582	2442	140	5.4
TOOLE	2470	2370	100	4.0
TREASURE	411	396	15	3.6
VALLEY	4227	3885	342	8.1
WHEATLAND	1123	1077	46	4.1
WIBAUX	627	608	19	3.0

TABLE IX-B

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA
JANUARY 1981

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	354596	328134	26462	7.5
CASCADE	33462	30749	2713	8.1
YELLOWSTONE	55772	52659	3113	5.6
BEAVERHEAD	3828	3660	168	4.4
BIG HORN	5482	5089	393	7.2
BLAINE	2607	2313	294	11.3
BROADWATER	1163	1045	118	10.1
CARBON	3224	3051	173	5.4
CARTER	686	675	11	1.6
CHOUTEAU	2539	2474	65	2.6
CUSTER	5961	5634	327	5.5
DANIELS	1254	1228	26	2.1
DAWSON	5596	5369	227	4.1
DEER LODGE	4766	3892	874	18.3
FALLON	2186	2142	44	2.0
FERGUS	5393	5053	340	6.3
FLATHEAD	21691	19384	2307	10.6
GALLATIN	18540	17412	1128	6.1
GARFIELD	726	716	10	1.4
GLACIER	5332	4726	606	11.4
GOLDEN VALLEY	321	306	15	4.7
GRANITE	1068	987	81	7.6
HILL	8139	7603	536	6.6
JEFFERSON	2231	2065	166	7.4
JUDITH BASIN	951	894	57	6.0
LAKE	7052	6371	681	9.7
LEWIS AND CLARK	24041	22650	1391	5.8
LIBERTY	1014	981	33	3.3
LINCOLN	6338	5315	1023	16.1
MC CONE	1022	1003	19	1.9
MADISON	2022	1917	105	5.2
MEAGHER	968	877	91	9.4
MINERAL	1685	1482	203	12.0
MISSOULA	35587	32354	3233	9.1
MUSSELSHELL	1470	1413	57	3.9
PARK	5390	4879	511	9.5
PETROLEUM	236	231	5	2.1
PHILLIPS	2701	2572	129	4.8
PONDERA	3290	3141	149	4.5
POWDER RIVER	1047	1001	46	4.4
POWELL	3508	3247	261	7.4
PRAIRIE	756	720	36	4.8
RAVALLI	7029	6063	966	13.7
RICHLAND	6012	5871	141	2.3
ROOSEVELT	4642	4351	291	6.3
ROSEBUD	5408	4990	418	7.7
SANDERS	3899	3358	541	13.9
SHERIDAN	2762	2720	42	1.5
SILVER BOW	18316	16952	1364	7.4
STILLWATER	2557	2443	114	4.5
SWEET GRASS	1601	1516	85	5.3
TETON	2518	2380	138	5.5
TOOLE	2505	2358	147	5.9
TREASURE	382	360	22	5.8
VALLEY	4201	3874	327	7.8
WHEATLAND	1120	1032	88	7.9
WIBAUX	599	586	13	2.2

TABLE X

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
	Feb. 1981[1/]	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Net Change to Current Month From: Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Total Feb. 1981	Percent Women	Total Jan. 1981	Percen Women
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	131.4	131.7	132.9	-.3	-1.5	274.0	48.0%	275.6	47.8%
Manufacturing	2.8	2.9	3.3	-.1	- .5	22.4	12.5%	22.9	12.7%
Mining	.5	.5	.5	0	0	7.6	6.6%	7.9	6.3%
Contract Construction	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	.1	11.8	12.7%	12.1	12.4%
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.4	4.4	4.2	0	.2	23.4	18.8%	23.5	18.7%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.4	35.5	36.5	-.1	-1.1	69.9	50.6%	70.3	50.5%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.2	8.4	8.4	-.2	- .2	12.7	64.6%	12.7	66.1%
Services	34.7	34.5	36.2	.2	-1.5	55.8	62.2%	55.5	62.2%
Government[2/]	43.9	44.0	42.5	-.1	1.4	70.3	62.4%	70.7	62.2%

[1/] *Current month preliminary.* *Revised to 1979 Benchmark.* *Establishment Series began January 1974*

[2/] *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.*

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

1980

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9	130.9	129.4	129.5	134.0	128.7	129.8	130.5	132.6	133.2	133.1	131.5
Manufacturing..................	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Mining.........................	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction..........	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.......	36.5	36.5	35.6	35.7	36.0	35.9	36.2	36.1	35.9	35.9	36.1	36.7	36.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.4
Services.......................	36.2	36.2	34.3	34.5	34.1	37.2	37.2	34.2	34.1	34.5	34.7	34.7	35.2
Government.....................	42.5	42.5	43.1	41.9	42.1	43.3	37.6	41.7	42.9	43.8	44.6	43.9	42.5

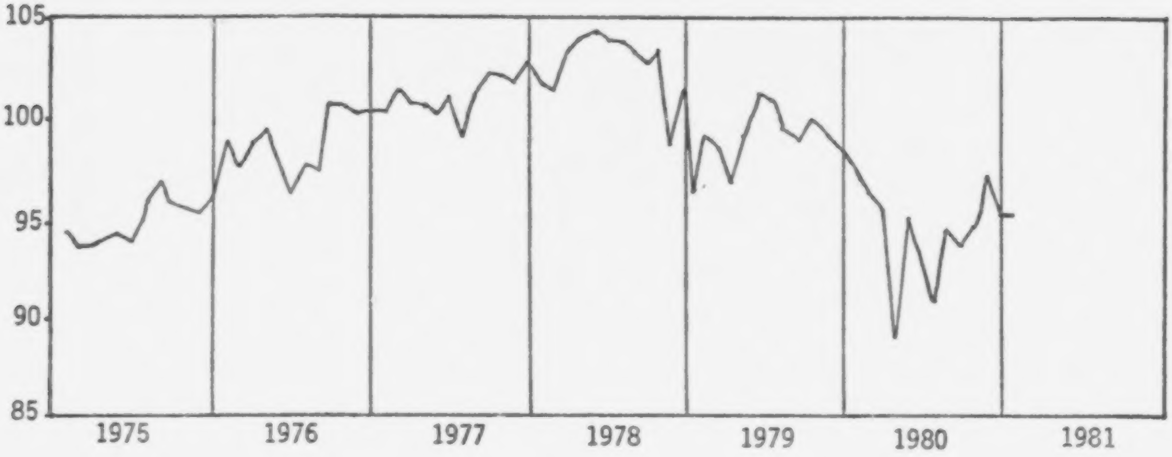
1981

Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	131.7	131.4
Manufacturing..................	2.9	2.8
Mining.........................	.5	.5
Contract Construction..........	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.......	35.5	35.4
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.2
Services.......................	34.5	34.7
Government.....................	44.0	43.9

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1980 Benchmark.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



Monthly Figures
of Composite Index

1972 = 100

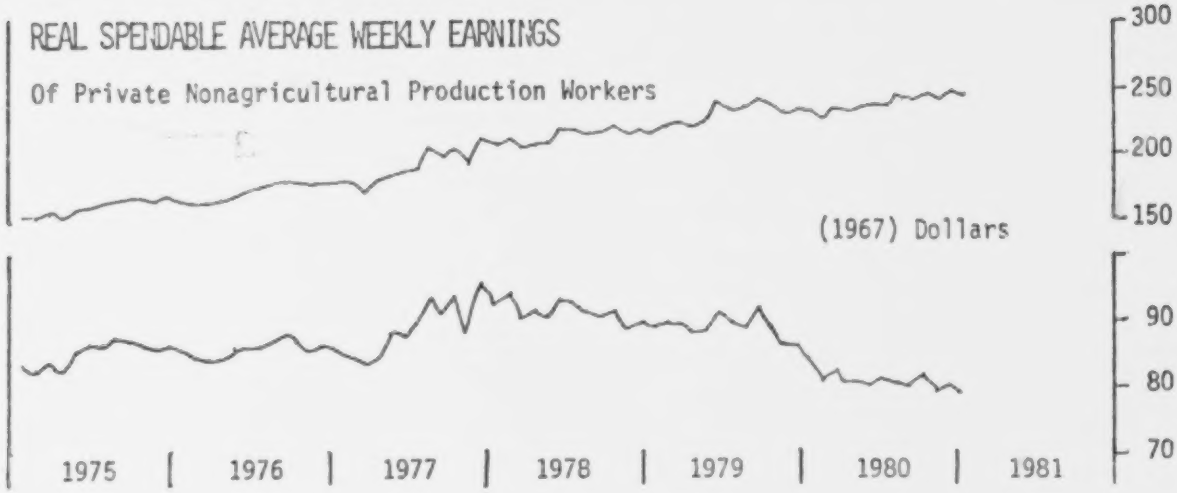
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
January	94.8	99.1	100.4	101.9	96.8	97.2	95.3
February	94.1	97.9	101.6	101.7	99.3	96.2	
March	94.2	98.6	100.8	103.5	98.9	95.4	
April	94.4	99.5	100.8	104.2	97.2	88.6	
May	94.6	98.4	100.4	104.3	99.4	94.3	
June	96.5	96.8	101.1	104.0	101.3	92.6	
July	96.3	98.0	99.4	103.8	101.0	90.4	
August	97.7	97.9	101.2	103.2	99.8	93.9	
September	96.3	100.8	102.3	102.8	99.6	93.3	
October	96.1	100.7	102.2	103.6	100.5	95.0	
November	95.8	100.5	101.9	99.0	99.8	97.4	
December	96.5	100.5	102.9	101.5	98.7	95.5	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

In January only a slight change was registered in the Composite Index. The number dropped from 95.5 in December to 95.3 in January. Negative movement was seen in the manufacturing layoff rate, manufacturing average weekly hours, and manufacturing employment. The layoff rate jumped from 0.3 to 3.0 in January. Positive movement showed up in the number of average weekly initial claims and in building permits. These two components registered substantial changes, but were not enough to make up for the negative movement in the other indicators. With unusually warm weather, February is expected to show an increase in the Composite Index.

Components of Composite Index:

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.



REAL SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

Of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers

	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	245.28	247.75	232.60
3/ Taxes Withheld	40.81	40.24	35.79
Spendable Earnings	204.48	207.52	196.81
Adjustment for Price Changes since 1967	126.04	127.31	112.45
Real Spendable Earnings	78.44	80.21	84.36

	1) Average Weekly Earnings			2) Real Spendable Earnings		
	1981	1980	1979	1981	1980	1979
January	245.28	232.60	215.42	78.44	84.36	89.20
Febuary		224.93	219.57		80.79	89.60
March		234.24	221.43		82.44	89.29
April		232.23	220.68		80.94	88.10
May		234.15	225.42		80.67	88.52
June		234.97	236.99		80.02	91.26
July		238.82	233.87		81.08	89.41
August		239.47	234.99		80.75	88.73
September		241.60	238.74		80.63	91.96
October		246.66	236.90		81.37	89.02
November		241.89	230.62		79.29	86.22
December		247.75	233.24		80.21	86.12

Real Spendable Earnings

Real Spendable earnings fell in January from $80.21 per week to $78.44. The decline was due both to the increasing rate of inflation and to the slight drop in gross average weekly earnings. Gross average weekly earnings of $245.28 were down from the previous month which registered 247.75. The rise in the inflation rate from December 1980 to January, 1981 was an annual rate of 9.6%

1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultrual production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XII

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent1/* Montana	*Percent1/* U. S.	
1979								
January	369.7	347.0	314.4	32.6	22.7	6.1	5.8	*
February	369.0	348.3	315.7	32.6	20.9	5.6	5.7	1.1
March	367.1	347.4	314.9	32.5	19.7	5.4	5.7	*
April	368.7	348.7	316.3	32.4	20.0	5.4	5.8	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.8	32.3	19.4	5.2	5.8	.1
June	372.7	354.0	321.8	32.2	18.7	5.0	5.7	.1
July	368.0	349.9	317.8	32.1	18.1	4.9	5.7	*
August	368.1	350.6	318.6	32.0	17.5	4.8	5.9	.1
September	370.2	352.6	320.6	32.0	17.6	4.8	5.8	*
October	371.9	354.2	322.2	32.0	17.7	4.8	5.9	*
November	371.9	354.4	322.4	32.0	17.5	4.7	5.8	*
December	372.4	353.8	321.8	32.0	18.6	5.0	5.9	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.1
1980								
January	375.7	355.8	323.8	32.0	19.9	5.3	6.2	.7
February	376.1	356.3	324.4	31.9	19.8	5.3	6.2	1.1
March	376.5	355.9	324.2	31.7	20.6	5.8	6.3	.7
April	375.2	352.2	320.7	31.5	23.0	6.1	6.9	.3
May	374.4	352.5	321.1	31.4	21.9	5.9	7.6	.2
June	376.0	353.9	322.7	31.2	22.1	5.9	7.5	.2
July	370.0	345.4	314.3	31.1	24.6	6.7	7.6	2.7
August	370.9	348.0	317.0	31.0	22.9	6.2	7.6	2.6
September	370.7	348.2	317.0	31.2	22.5	6.1	7.4	3.1
October	372.9	350.6	319.3	31.3	22.3	6.0	7.6	1.3
November	375.2	353.1	321.8	31.3	22.1	5.9	7.5	1.3
December	374.6	352.2	320.8	31.4	22.4	6.0	7.4	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	6.0	7.1	1.2
1981								
January	375.5	354.1	322.7	31.4	21.4	5.7	7.4	*
February	381.0	357.5	326.2	31.3	23.5	6.2	7.3	1.0
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table XIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	34.4	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.6	7.6	6.1	*
February	34.5	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.5	7.3	5.6	*
March	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.4	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.4	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.6	5.2	*
June	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	5.8	5.0	*
July	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	6.1	4.9	*
August	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.1	4.8	*
September	33.7	31.8	30.5	1.3	1.9	5.7	4.8	*
October	33.3	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.6	4.7	4.8	*
November	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	5.6	4.7	*
December	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	5.6	5.0	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	34.1	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.0	5.9	5.3	*
February	34.5	32.4	31.1	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.3	*
March	34.4	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.5	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.2	6.6	6.1	*
May	34.2	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.3	6.7	5.9	.2
June	33.5	31.0	29.6	1.2	2.5	7.5	5.9	.2
July	34.4	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.7	7.9	6.7	.5
August	34.3	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.6	7.4	6.2	.4
September	34.0	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.1	.4
October	34.2	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.6	7.5	6.0	*
November	34.4	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.5	7.2	5.9	*
December	34.5	32.0	30.6	1.2	2.5	7.2	6.0	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.0	.2
1981								
January	34.5	32.3	31.1	1.2	2.2	6.3	5.7	*
February	35.4	32.8	31.6	1.2	2.6	7.5	6.2	*
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIV

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage-ment Dispute[2/]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent*[1/] County	*Percent*[1/] State	
1979								
January	54.7	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.5	*4.5*	*6.1*	*
February	54.7	52.5	51.0	1.5	2.2	*4.1*	*5.6*	*
March	54.4	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.1	*3.8*	*5.4*	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	*3.9*	*5.4*	*
May	55.2	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.1	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
June	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	*3.5*	*5.0*	*
July	55.0	53.1	51.6	1.5	1.9	*3.4*	*4.9*	*
August	55.6	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.9	*3.4*	*4.8*	*
September	55.4	53.5	52.0	1.5	1.9	*3.3*	*4.8*	*
October	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	*3.4*	*4.8*	*
November	55.7	53.7	52.2	1.5	2.0	*3.6*	*4.7*	*
December	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	*3.6*	*5.0*	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	*3.7*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	56.3	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.2	*3.9*	*5.3*	.6
February	56.8	54.3	52.8	1.5	2.5	*4.4*	*5.3*	.7
March	56.7	54.2	52.7	1.5	2.5	*4.5*	*5.5*	.3
April	56.3	53.8	52.4	1.4	2.5	*4.5*	*6.1*	*
May	56.5	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.5	*4.5*	*5.9*	*
June	56.7	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.7	*4.7*	*5.9*	*
July	56.9	53.9	52.5	1.4	3.0	*5.3*	*6.7*	*
August	56.7	53.9	52.5	1.4	2.8	*4.9*	*6.2*	*
September	56.8	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.7	*4.8*	*6.1*	*
October	56.9	54.3	52.9	1.4	2.6	*4.5*	*6.0*	*
November	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	*4.3*	*5.9*	*
December	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	*4.4*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	*4.6*	*6.0*	.1
1981								
January	57.2	54.8	53.4	1.4	2.4	*4.2*	*5.7*	*
February	*58.4*	*55.6*	*54.2*	*1.4*	*2.8*	*4.8*	*6.2*	*
March								
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
** Under 50.*
NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
TOTAL PRIVATE	$248.88	$245.28	$224.93	36.6	36.5	36.2	$6.80	6.72	6.39
MANUFACTURING	369.46	369.14	355.75	41.7	41.9	42.2	8.86	8.81	8.43
Durable Goods	376.13	381.60	394.70	41.7	42.4	44.1	9.02	9.00	8.95
Primary Metal Industries	380.57	401.54	403.34	30.3	31.2	40.7	12.56	12.87	9.91
Nondurable Goods	357.34	347.27	279.17	41.6	41.0	38.4	8.59	8.47	7.27
Food and Kindred Products	295.74	286.60	286.01	43.3	41.9	43.4	6.83	6.84	6.59
MINING	470.88	472.19	445.52	47.6	46.9	46.7	10.04	9.92	9.54
Metal Mining	473.12	473.12	413.83	40.3	40.3	33.4	11.74	11.74	12.39
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	406.37	411.04	372.11	40.8	40.9	37.1	9.96	10.05	10.03
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	361.70	361.15	333.32	44.7	44.2	42.3	8.09	8.18	7.88
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	381.25	380.01	361.61	51.8	50.2	49.4	7.36	7.57	7.32
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	199.07	192.13	167.26	31.8	31.6	30.3	6.26	6.08	5.52
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	162.50	157.47	156.37	37.1	36.2	33.7	4.38	4.35	4.64
SERVICES	159.16	160.20	150.72	34.6	34.6	34.1	4.60	4.63	4.42

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980	Jan. 1981	Dec. 1980	Jan. 1980
MANUFACTURING	1.6	1.6	1.0	1.4	1.3	0.8	0.1	0.3	0.1	4.5	2.7	1.0	1.4	2.0	0.6	2.5	0.3	0.3
Durable Goods	0.2	0.7	0.8	0.2	0.3	0.5	0.0	0.4	0.1	4.4	1.5	0.5	0.4	0.7	0.0	2.9	0.3	0.4
Primary Metal Industries	0.3	2.8	1.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	2.8	0.5	2.5	2.0	2.7	1.9	2.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	1.8
Nondurable Goods	3.9	3.0	1.4	3.3	3.0	1.3	0.2	0.0	0.0	4.7	4.6	1.9	2.9	4.1	1.7	1.8	0.3	0.1
MINING	8.3	4.3	1.4	8.3	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.0	5.2	7.3	1.1	5.3	6.1	1.0	0.0	0.6	0.0
Metal Mining	0.0	5.4	4.8	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	3.5	0.0	0.0	2.5	0.7	0.0	1.1	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.0

* *Less than .05.*

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggrigate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1980	Year to Date 1981	Year to Date 1980
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	34	31	57	78
MINING	63	18	103	55
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	40	48	91	115
MANUFACTURING	34	22	51	56
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	32	34	51	53
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	170	123	271	274
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	75	50	139	104
SERVICES	187	160	363	337
NON-PROFIT SERVICES	(31)	(26)	(93)	(66)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	16	42	18	58
STATE TOTAL	651	528	1144	1130

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS Feb. 1981	Feb. 1980	Year to Date 1981	Year to Date 1980
STATE OF MONTANA	651	528	1144	1130
GREAT FALLS SMSA	41	42	82	85
BILLINGS SMSA	97	83	154	163
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MULTI-COUNTY	121	38	238	84
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	40	41	60	76
Beaverhead	14	4	19	15
Deer Lodge	1	3	4	4
Granite	0	1	0	4
Madison	3	5	7	10
Powell	1	7	1	9
Silver Bow	21	21	29	34
BOZEMAN LMA	44	36	67	75
Gallatin	37	28	53	54
Meagher	0	0	0	2
Park	7	8	14	19
GLASGOW LMA	18	15	29	34
Daniels	1	1	2	2
Phillips	4	3	5	6
Roosevelt	5	4	9	10
Sheridan	4	4	7	8
Valley	4	3	6	8
GLENDIVE LMA	37	32	55	69
Dawson	13	9	22	22
Garfield	0	2	1	3
McCone	4	6	5	10
Prairie	0	1	1	4
Richland	18	13	24	29
Wibaux	2	1	2	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	15	9	26	25
Big Horn	3	4	3	8
Carbon	5	1	7	5
Stillwater	4	4	11	9
Sweet Grass	3	0	5	3
HAVRE LMA	27	15	39	27
Blaine	2	2	3	6
Hill	25	12	35	20
Liberty	0	1	1	1
HELENA LMA	36	31	70	73
Broadwater	1	0	1	1
Jefferson	3	2	6	6
Lewis and Clark	32	29	63	66
KALISPELL LMA	64	52	114	138
Flathead	47	30	82	90
Lake	10	13	17	26
Lincoln	7	9	15	22
LEWISTOWN LMA	10	14	18	24
Fergus	4	7	8	12
Golden Valley	0	2	0	2
Judith Basin	2	2	2	3
Musselshell	2	2	4	6
Petroleum	1	1	2	1
Wheatland	1	0	2	0
MILES CITY LMA	18	18	32	38
Carter	1	2	2	2
Custer	8	5	15	8
Fallon	3	4	3	11
Powder River	3	0	5	3
Rosebud	3	6	6	13
Treasure	0	1	1	1
MISSOULA LMA	60	83	121	160
Mineral	0	2	3	4
Missoula	34	61	75	120
Ravalli	21	13	33	25
Sanders	5	7	10	11
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	23	19	39	59
Choteau	2	5	4	11
Glacier	4	6	11	20
Pondera	6	3	8	10
Teton	3	1	5	2
Toole	8	4	11	16

Sources of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

EMPLOYER CLASSIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE RATING

Effective January 1, 1980, Montana instituted the "reserve ratio" experience rating system. Under this system each subject employer (excluding some nonprofit organizations and all government entities) is assigned an "experience factor" which is contributions paid minus benefits charged on each employer's account since July 1, 1976, divided by the employer's average annual taxable payroll for the 3 fiscal years immediately preceding the computation date. Each employer with a positive "experience factor" is designated as an eligible employer and those with a negative "experience factor" are designated as deficit employers. Schedules are then prepared listing all eligible and deficit employers in inverse numerical order of their experience factors as well as the cumulative taxable payrolls for all of those employers. The cumulative taxable payroll amounts are then segregated into groups that will yield approximately the average tax rate according to the tax schedule assigned for that particular taxable year. Each group will be identified by the rate class listed on the schedule and each employer is assigned that contribution rate opposite their rate class for the tax schedule in effect for the taxable year.

The rate schedule for each calendar year is assigned based upon the ratio of the trust fund balance as of December 31 prior to the rate year to total wages in covered employment for the previous fiscal year.

Schedules of contribution rates are shown on the following page. The rate schedule assigned for taxable year 1981 is Schedule IX. As can be noted, the minimum ratio of fund to total wages must be .0050 to assign Schedule IX and the approximate average tax yield will be 2.9% for that schedule. Eligible employers will be assigned contribution rates of 1.7% to 3.5% and deficit employers 3.8% to 4.4% based on their respective rate class assignment. Unrated employers (those with less than 3 years of experience) are all assigned a rate of 3.7%.

SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTION RATES

	Sched. I	Sched. II	Sched. III	Sched. IV	Sched. V	Sched. VI	Sched. VII	Sched. VIII	Sched. IX	Sched. X
Minimum Ratio of Fund to Total Wages	(.0150)	(.0145)	(.0140)	(.0130)	(.0120)	(.0110)	(.0095)	(.0075)	(.005)	(.....)
Average Tax Rate	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.1
Rate Class	CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR ELIGIBLE EMPLOYERS									
1	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	0.7%	0.9%	1.1%	1.3%	1.5%	1.7%	1.9%
2	0.4	0.6	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2
3	0.7	0.9	1.1	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.5
4	1.0	1.2	1.4	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8
5	1.3	1.5	1.7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.1
6	1.6	1.8	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4
7	1.9	2.1	2.3	2.5	2.7	2.9	3.1	3.3	3.5	3.7
CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR UNRATED EMPLOYERS:	2.1%	2.3%	2.5%	2.7%	2.9%	3.1%	3.3%	3.5%	3.7%	3.9%
Rate Class	CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR DEFICIT EMPLOYERS									
1	2.2%	2.4%	2.6%	2.8%	3.0%	3.2%	3.4%	3.6%	3.8%	4.0%
2	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2
3	2.6	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4
4	2.8	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.4
5	3.0	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4
6	3.2	3.4	3.6	3.8	4.0	4.2	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week and for how many potential weeks is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individual's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under the Montana Law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	332	34,881.96
BIGHORN	597	58,047.19
BLAINE	282	27,335.81
BROADWATER	204	23,351.80
CARBON	350	35,969.06
CARTER	5	655.00
CASCADE	5,829	623,544.01
CHOUTEAU	87	9,136.00
CUSTER	629	62,830.87
DANIELS	40	4,411.00
DAWSON	182	17,446.00
DEER LODGE	2,486	290,141.33
FALLON	20	1,762.76
FERGUS	528	50,178.36
FLATHEAD	4,306	395,722.98
GALLATIN	2,084	191,141.13
GARFIELD	12	961.00
GLACIER	883	75,856.90
GOLDEN VALLEY	18	1,643.00
GRANITE	125	13,876.28
HILL	691	64,542.71
JEFFERSON	277	29,536.30
JUDITH BASIN	31	3,340.00
LAKE	1,159	105,240.63
LEWIS AND CLARK	2,302	224,359.21
LIBERTY	61	5,803.50
LINCOLN	1,717	156,165.78
MCCONE	19	1,521.00
MADISON	181	16,598.71
MEAGHER	146	14,484.30
MINERAL	407	41,152.08
MISSOULA	6,278	621,152.90
MUSSELSHELL	78	8,263.00
PARK	772	67,861.58
PETROLEUM	6	280.00
PHILLIPS	218	21,109.72
PONDERA	265	26,961.00
POWDER RIVER	23	2,607.00
POWELL	379	35,908.62
PRAIRIE	62	6,428.00
RAVALLI	1,450	138,609.41
RICHLAND	109	9,888.56
ROOSEVELT	358	31,433.75
ROSEBUD	674	76,100.61
SANDERS	950	94,205.98
SHERIDAN	42	3,737.00
SILVER BOW	2,620	266,510.75
STILLWATER	235	25,660.00
SWEET GRASS	118	12,674.00
TETON	217	22,073.00
TOOLE	176	18,765.34
TREASURE	17	1,928.00
VALLEY	478	47,298.12
WHEATLAND	31	3,300.00
WIBAUX	28	2,897.00
YELLOWSTONE	5,625	589,779.65
INTRASTATE	47,233	4,719,001.13
INTERSTATE	1,936	282,323.07
TOTAL	49,169	5,001,324.20

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1981 THRU JANUARY 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	352	34,881.96
BIGHORN	597	58,047.19
BLAINE	282	27,335.81
BROADWATER	204	23,351.80
CARBON	350	35,969.06
CARTER	5	655.00
CASCADE	5,829	623,544.01
CHOUTEAU	87	9,136.00
CUSTER	629	62,830.87
DANIELS	40	4,411.00
DAWSON	182	17,446.00
DEER LODGE	2,486	290,141.33
FALLON	29	1,762.76
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FLATHEAD	4,306	395,722.98
GALLATIN	2,084	191,141.13
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PETROLEUM	6	280.00
PHILLIPS	218	21,109.72
PONDERA	265	26,961.00
POWDER RIVER	23	2,607.00
POWELL	379	36,908.62
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RAVALLI	1,450	138,608.41
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SWEET GRASS	118	12,674.00
TETON	217	22,073.00
TOOLE	176	18,765.84
TREASURE	17	1,928.00
VALLEY	478	47,298.12
WHEATLAND	31	3,300.00
WIBAUX	28	2,807.00
YELLOWSTONE	5,625	589,779.65
INTRASTATE	47,233	4,713,671.05
INTERSTATE	1,936	282,323.07
TOTAL	49,169	5,000,994.12

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1981	1980	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims1/	10,687	13,488	-2,801	-20.8
Continued Claims1/	110,607	125,800	-15,193	-12.1
Number of Benefit Payments1/	97,335	100,163	-2,828	- 2.8
Amount of Benefits Paid1/	$9,867,280	$9,197,536	$669,744	7.3
Average Weekly Benefit Amount1/2/	$108.77	$95.86	$12.91	13.5

MONTHLY

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980	Change From Year Ago	
				Net	Percent
Initial Claims1/	4,057	6,630	4,096	- 39	-1.0
Continued Claims1/	54,654	55,953	61,785	-7,131	-11.5
Number of Benefit Payments1/	48,166	49,169	51,752	-3,586	-6.9
Amount of Benefits Paid1/	$4,865,956	$5,001,324	$4,784,355	$81,601	1.7
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt1/2/	$108.18	$109.35	$96.51	$11.67	12.1
Trust Fund Balance	$16,028,841	$16,599,737	$14,547,295*	$1,481,546	10.2

1/ *Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.*
2/ *Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".*
* *Excludes Loans from Federal Government. which amount to* $ 7,084,089.

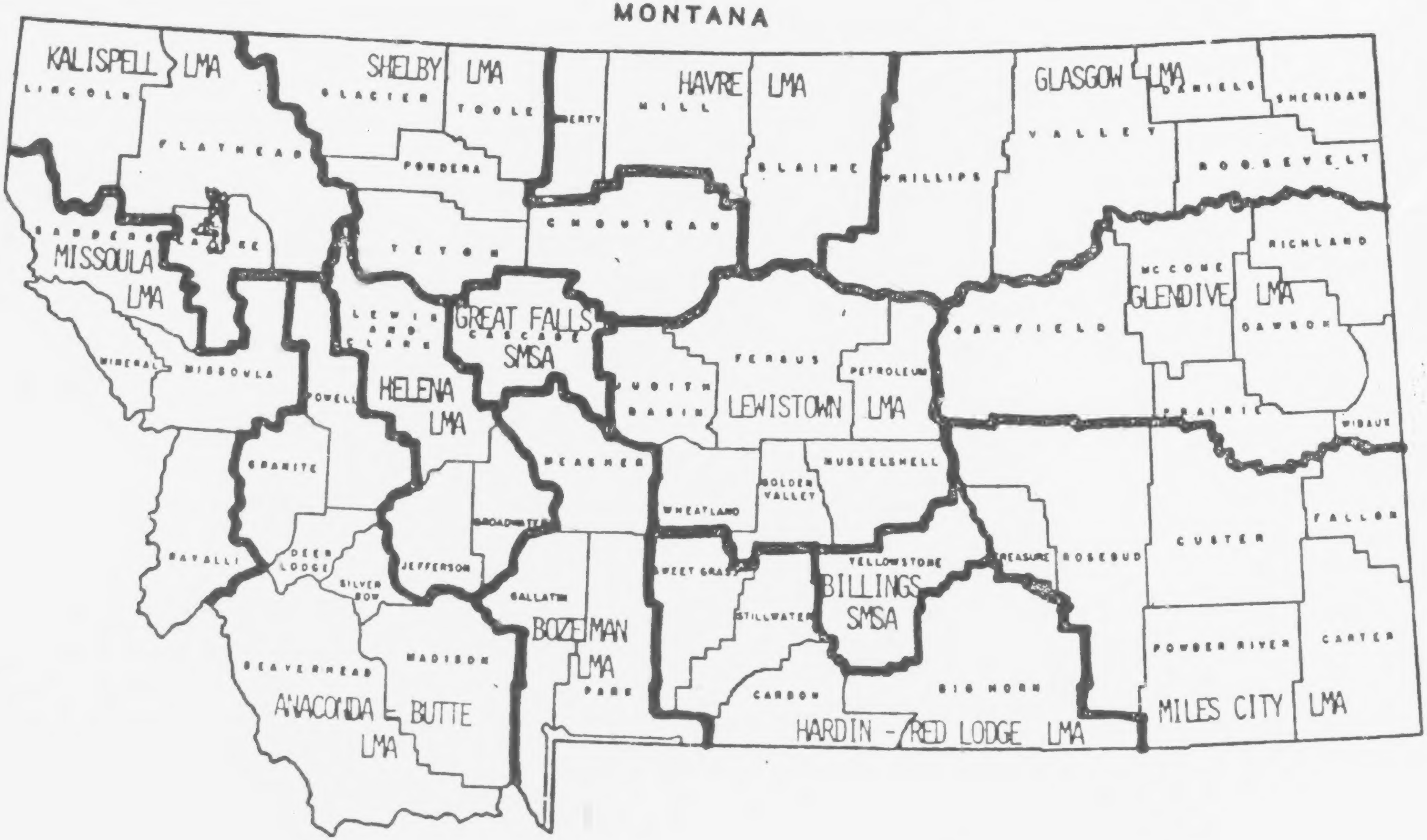
Fewer initial and continued claims were filed in February than either last month or a year ago. Combined January and February 1981 totals compare favorably with the first two months of 1980. This winter has been unusually mild which may have helped the employment situation.

A drop from the 48,166 benefit payments in February 1981 of 1,033 from January and 3,586 from February 1980 was noted. The amount of benefits paid in February, $4,865,956, was $135,368 less than last month but $81,601 more than last year.

The fact that there were more beneficiaries in February 1980 but total dollars were less than this February is reflected in the Average Weekly Benefit Amount, which was $108.18 in 1981 and $96.51 in 1980, a difference of $11.67. The January figure of $109.35 was only $1.17 higher than this month. The sizable gain from last year is partly due to the increased Maximum Weekly Benefit Amount since July 1980.

Trust Fund Balance is holding very well although it was reduced slightly this month from January, but still almost $1.5 million over February 1980. Next month contributions to the fund will be smaller, but from then on employment opportunities normally should improve with winter over, unless there is a sharp decline in Montana's economic situation.

LABOR MARKET AREAS
IN
MONTANA


KALISPELL LMA
SHELBY LMA
HAVRE LMA
GLASGOW LMA
MISSOULA LMA
GREAT FALLS SMSA
GLENDIVE LMA
HELENA LMA
LEWISTOWN LMA
BILLINGS SMSA
BOZEMAN LMA
ANACONDA LMA
BUTTE
MILES CITY LMA
HARDIN - RED LODGE LMA
LINCOLN
FLATHEAD
GLACIER
TOOLE
PONDERA
LIBERTY
HILL
BLAINE
PHILLIPS
VALLEY
DANIELS
SHERIDAN
ROOSEVELT
SANDERS
LAKE
TETON
CHOUTEAU
LEWIS AND CLARK
CASCADE
MCCONE
RICHLAND
GARFIELD
DAWSON
MINERAL
MISSOULA
POWELL
JUDITH BASIN
FERGUS
PETROLEUM
PRAIRIE
WIBAUX
GRANITE
MEAGHER
GOLDEN VALLEY
MUSSELSHELL
WHEATLAND
BROADWATER
FALLON
CUSTER
RAVALLI
DEER LODGE
SILVER BOW
JEFFERSON
SWEET GRASS
YELLOWSTONE
TREASURE
ROSEBUD
GALLATIN
STILLWATER
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OF MONTANA
P.O. BOX 1728
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The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 24 local Job Service offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.

1,000 copies of this publication were produced at a unit cost of $.85 per copy, for a total cost of $846.00 which includes $696.00 for printing and $150.00 for distribution.

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LOCAL OFFICE LISTING

ANACONDA
307 E. Park
Anaconda, MT 59711
(563-3444)
(563-3445)

BILLINGS EAST
624 N. 24th St.
Billings, MT 59101
(248-7371)

BILLINGS PROGRAM OFFICE
1425 Broadwater Ave.
Suite E
Billings, MT 59102
(259-5529)

BILLINGS WEST
445 S. 24th St. W.
Billings, MT 59102
(652-2920)

BOZEMAN
220 W. Lamme
Bozeman, MT 59715
(586-5455)

BUTTE
206 W. Granite
Butte, MT 59701
(792-0417)

BUTTE PROGRAM OFFICE
Idaho & Mercury Sts.
Butte, MT 59701
(792-9115)

CUT BANK
513 E. Main
Cut Bank, MT 59427
(873-2191)

WIN CENTER
P.O. Box 837
Browning, MT 59417
(338-7551)

DILLON
126 S. Montana St.
Dillon, MT 59725
(683-5501)

GLASGOW
238 2nd Ave. S.
Glasgow, MT 59230
(228-9369)

WIN CENTER
Glasgow AFB
Box 4696
Glasgow, MT 59231
(524-7371)

GLENDIVE
211 S. Kendrick
Glendive, MT 59330
(365-3314)

GREAT FALLS
1018 7th St. S.
Great Falls, MT 59405
(761-1730)

GREAT FALLS PROGRAM OFFICE
1018 7th St. S.
Great Falls, MT 59405
(761-1730)

HAMILTON
333 Main Street
P.O. Box 73
Hamilton, MT 59840
(363-1822)
(363-1824)

HAVRE
416 1st St.
Havre, MT 59501
(265-5847)

HELENA
715 Front Street
Helena, MT 59601
(449-3044)

HELENA PROGRAM OFFICE
529 N. Warren
Helena, MT 59601
(442-2531)

KALISPELL
427 1st Ave. E.
Kalispell, MT 59901
(755-5071)

KALISPELL PROGRAM OFFICE
37 1st Street W.
Kalispell, MT 59901
(755-5020)

LEWISTOWN
324 W. Broadway
Lewistown, MT 59457
(538-8701)

LIBBY
314 S. Calfiornia
Libby, MT 59923
(293-6282)

LIVINGSTON
228 S. Main
P.O. Box 1199
Livingston, MT 59047
(222-0520)

MILES CITY
12 N. 10th
Miles City, MT 59301
(232-1316)

MISSOULA
539 S. 3rd St. W.
P.O. Box 5027
Missoula, MT 59806
(728-7060)

MISSOULA PROGRAM OFFICE
600 Kensington
P.O. Box 4986
Missoula, MT 59801
(721-5680)

POLSON
417 Main Street
P.O. Box 970
Polson, MT 59860
(883-5261)
(883-5262)

SHELBY
402 1st Street S.
Shelby, MT 59474
(434-5161)

SIDNEY
120 S. Central
Sidney, MT 59270
(482-1204)

THOMPSON FALLS
608 Main Street
Thompson Falls, MT 59873
(827-3472)

WOLF POINT
122 Second Ave. S.
Wolf Point, MT 59201
(653-1720)

S4710-1

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

April 1981

STATE OF MONTANA
TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID L. HUNTER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
FRED BARRETT, ADMINISTRATOR

Volume 11 - Number 4

Produced by:
Research & Analysis
in cooperation with the
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

For more information contact:
Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis Section
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-2430

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics X-11 variant of the Census Method II seasonal adjustment program.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six economic indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

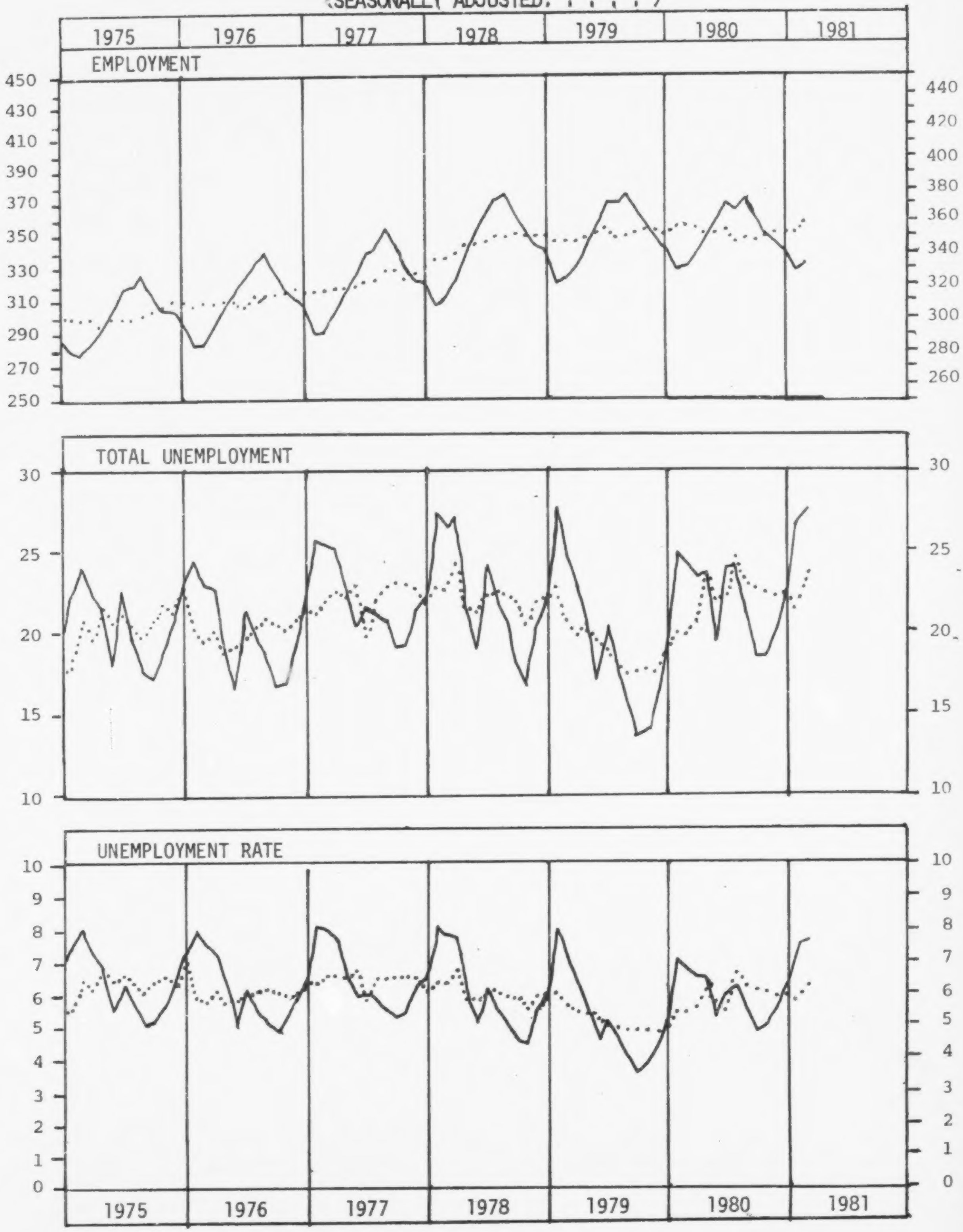
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ______)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: . . . .)



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601

STATEWIDE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	370.9	362.4	362.9	8.5	8.0
Employment	345.3	334.9	339.5	10.4	5.8
Unemployment	25.6	27.5	23.4	-1.9	2.2
Unemployment Rate	*6.9*	*7.6*	*6.5*	*-.7*	*.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Agriculture activities are increasing around the State. Calving and lambing are nearly complete and newborn losses are less than normal. Spring planting is nearing 50 percent completion and is generally progressing faster than last year. The dry and windy conditions have damaged some of Montana's farm land. The eastern part of the state is experiencing severe to extreme drought conditions. Wind has caused erosion of the land and some people are comparing it to the days of the dust bowl.

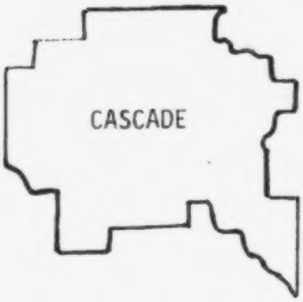
The timber industry in the State is still declining. It is estimated that Montana will receive nearly $7.6 million in 1981 from the U. S. Forest Service. This is the State's 25 percent share of revenues that the forest service receives from use of national forest land in the State. The estimated payment is lower than last year's payment. A survey by a western lumber association shows that orders for wood products from the northwestern states through mid-March are seven percent less than the same period last year. The Forest Service is considering the first major timber sale in ten years on the eastern slope of the Rockies. The 4 to 4.5 million board foot sale is being considered because the lodgepole pine stands on the eastern slopes are dying rapidly.

Oil well drilling in the first quarter of 1981 increased by 62 percent over the same period in 1980. At the present pace, the 1968 record of 1,016 wells completed will be surpassed. Exploratory drilling is up by 40 percent, but the success ratio had a small decline. Fourteen new oil pools and two gas fields were found so far this year. Although drilling has increased, production by refineries in January was less than December. The six refineries in the State processed 11,807 barrels of crude per day the first month of this year. This was a drop of about 44 percent from the previous month. There were 380,000 barrels more in storage at the end of January than there were in December.

A boost to construction should be provided by a law just passed by the legislature. A number of school and local building projects have been delayed by the inability of government agencies to sell relatively low interest bonds. The bond market rate has been forced by inflation to about two percent above the state mandated ceiling on interest rates. The new law will remove that ceiling. Low bids on about $6.5 million of highway projects were opened the end of March. Work on these projects will begin when the contracts are awarded, which will be after the Highway Commission reviews them.

March 30 was the deadline for submitting proposals to the federally created Synthetic Fuels Corp. Three of the 61 projects, which are seeking part of the $17.5 billion in government subsidies are in Montana. The future of the synthetic fuels program has been in doubt, and new members have not yet been appointed to the board of the corporation. It is hoped that the new board will be in place soon so that the decisions on which projects to fund can be made.

GREAT FALLS SMSA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	34.6	34.2	33.6	.4	1.0
Employment	32.0	31.3	31.4	.7	.6
Unemployment	2.6	2.9	2.2	-.3	.4
Unemployment Rate	*7.6*	*8.5*	*6.6*	*-.9*	*1.0*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The possibility of a fuel alchohol plant faded as the Farmers Home Administration disapproved a loan request of $1 million because they considered the plant not economically feasible. The corporation that is planning the plant is now attempting to secure financing from another source for the $2.5 million project. A petroleum refinery in the area has been put up for sale. Operations at the refinery will continue until it is sold. The 6,000 barrel-a-day operation currently employs over 60 workers. Prospective buyers for the copper refinery that closed last fall have been touring the plant. The potential buyers indicate that if they decide to buy the refinery, new labor practices would be established and instead of needing 500 people, they would need only 250. Another firm has made some very preliminary inquiries about possibly purchasing the plant.

Construction work in the area is increasing as two long-awaited contracts are awarded. The city commission has let a $1 million contract for work at the water plant. The job will bring the water treatment plant into compliance with an order from the Environmental Protection Agency. Awarding the contract ends years of arguing between the city and the EPA on the necessity of the project. Bids have been opened for construction of a 40-bed cottage at the School for the Deaf and Blind. Apparent low bids totaled just under $1.3 million. The Legislature must approve about $700,000 in additional funds over what was originally allocated by the 1979 Legislature for the project.

Cutbacks in federal funding of the CETA program will affect some 94 positions in Great Falls. Many of the positions under the program have been eliminated by attrition. The number of CETA jobs administered by the city has dropped from 214 to its current level since they started phasing out the program last October. There will probably be 20 people actually laid off when the program ends at the end of April.

BILLINGS SMSA

YELLOWSTONE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	57.7	57.1	55.4	.6	2.3
Employment	54.7	53.8	52.5	.9	2.2
Unemployment	3.0	3.3	2.9	-.3	.1
Unemployment Rate	*5.1*	*5.8*	*5.3*	*-.7*	*-.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Building permits rose in the Billings SMSA in March. A total of 73 permits were issued in February and 97 issued in March. This compares to 90 during March, 1980. In March, 1980 only 16 of the permits were for new residential buildings, while 54 new residential permits were issued during March, 1981.

Plans for a synfuel plant in Billings died when a railroad company and a construction and engineering company announced plans to end their partnership. The railroad company is one of the world's largest owners of coal, holding more than 10 million tons of stripable coal. The railroad company said the plan for the synfuel plant was too risky at this time. This move also dims hopes for a massive coal project near Circle.

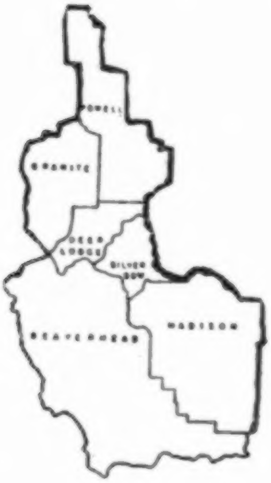
New businesses amounted to 52 during March for Yellowstone County. The trade industry registered the most new businesses. This is the same number recorded for new businesses in March, 1980

There were alot of layoffs during this reporting period in the Billings SMSA. A construction company laid off about 50 persons when a stoppage was ordered on a federal project in Yellowstone Park. The employer anticipated they would not be laid off for more than a week. A chain restaurant downtown also reported layoffs of six persons due to a business slowdown. A railroad company is talking about a 17% reduction in their staff which may affect 34 employees in Billings.

The construction industry reports approval of a $3,500,000 industrial revenue bond to finance development of a mall on Central Avenue. The post office will be going through a remodeling project which should be completed in September, 1981. The total cost of this project is $450,000.

Federal budget cuts are expected to leave a number of workers looking for work. At the same time, other industrial sectors should have jobs opening up with seasonal work about ready to begin.

ANACONDA - BUTTE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	March 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	34.6	34.0	33.9	.6	.7
Employment	31.9	31.1	31.9	.8	0
Unemployment	2.7	2.9	2.0	-.2	.7
Unemployment Rate	7.7	8.5	5.9	-.8	1.8

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A local area business market study done for the Butte area addressed the tourism potential of the area and other needs of the community. It was felt that with a greater promotional campaign the area could substantially increase the amount of tourist trade. Positive factors that enhance Butte's tourism potential are its historic value, location on two interstate highways and between Yellowstone and Glacier Parks, good convention facilities and access to good fishing and recreation areas. The redevelopment of the central business district by several different improvement programs was also discussed. A survey of businesses in a three-state-area gave indications of the type of products and services lacking in the area. This gives some indication of potential new businesses to serve these needs.

Also on the tourist front, plans are underway to begin a tourist train between Butte and Anaconda sometime this spring. This endeavor would employ 10-15 people.

As spring gets underway, so do construction projects. Road construction projects include bridge repair work in Twin Bridges, grading and related work on 12 miles of road southwest of Whitehall in Madison County, $1.1 million in paving projects in the Butte area.

Approval has been received for a welding training program in Anaconda. The classes will be held at the boilershop at the smelter. The Anaconda Company will supply the welding machinery and hoods, scrap metal and utilities. The program will be geared to the ability of the students. Some will require only a brushup on techniques, others will learn the basics. It is hoped that 50 persons will be able to utilize the training program during the 24 weeks it is funded. The start-up phase of the slag pile processing has begun. About 45 people have been hired for this project. The job to completion is estimated to last 2½ years.

BOZEMAN LMA

MEAGHER
GALLATIN
PARK

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	25.8	25.3	26.2	.5	-.4
Employment	24.2	23.5	24.5	.7	-.3
Unemployment	1.6	1.8	1.7	-.2	-.1
Unemployment Rate	6.2	7.1	6.4	-.9	-.2

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

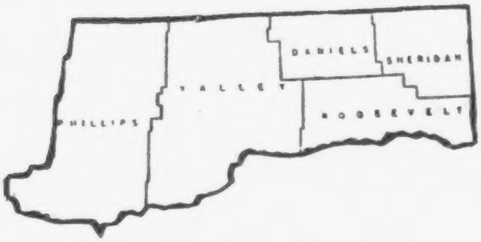
Some increase has been noted in agriculture activities over the previous month. Calving season, the main reason for the increase, is nearly completed. Spring seeding has started and is ahead of schedule due to the mild weather. The winter wheat and alfalfa crops have started growing and are experiencing some damage due to army cut-worm infestation.

A gold mining operation in Park County would employ about 180 people if a mining company fully develops their claim. If the company decides to go ahead with the mine, it would be four to five years before full production. One year would be required to secure the state and federal permits and three years to build the necessary facilities. The potential new employees at the mine and their families would swell the population by 600 to 900 people and create housing and other problems in a sparsely populated area.

Construction activity has remained about the same as last year. Twenty building permits were granted in Bozeman in March as compared with 21 permits for March of 1980. The state's long-range building plans which have been approved by the legislature include two new units valued at a total of $6.8 million for the Montana State University Campus. The proposed Visual Communications building will cost about $4.6 million and $2.2 million has been authorized for an animal laboratory.

The retail trade and service industries are experiencing some seasonal fluctuation at this time. The ski areas closed down in April and the Livingston Job Service reports that summer hiring has started for Yellowstone Park. Lack of snow and skiers has resulted in the early closing of one area which experienced only about 50% of the skier traffic that they had planned on this winter. The mild weather is also blamed for the 14% decline in winter tourism in Yellowstone Park.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	17.0	16.1	16.2	.9	.8
Employment	16.1	15.2	15.5	.9	.6
Unemployment	.9	.9	.7	0	.2
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.6	4.5	-.5	.6

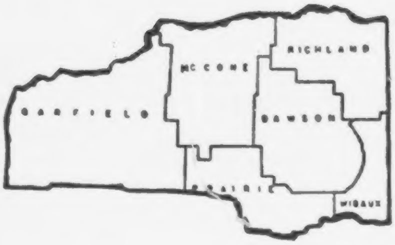
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Highlighting the area economy is the increase in activity concerning construction of a major natural gas pipeline. Approximately 600 workers will be in the area for six months and the demand for local labor has increased dramatically. Early in the month, security guards were hired for the project staging area in Glasgow and by the end of the period, employers in service industries--food service, motels, etc.--began gearing up for what is expected to be a busy summer. Pipeline contractors are only now beginning to hire workers in craft-occupations.

Activity in the more permanent sectors of the area economy was up also. Seismic exploration work continued at a healthy pace, however, there was little demand for workers. Activity is expected to increase considerably in the next few months. Aircraft flight crew training continued also, and the manufacturer announced that Glasgow is under consideration as a site for a one year testing program for a new aircraft.

Construction activity in the area, which was almost nonexistent last year, shows signs of a recovery this year. Several building permits were issued last month for new homes. Remodeling activity is reportedly quite high also. Cool windy weather delayed grain seeding and field work in the agriculture industry. There was little demand for these workers this month, but the hiring pace should pick up soon.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	15.7	15.0	14.9	.7	.8
Employment	15.3	14.6	14.4	.7	.9
Unemployment	.4	.4	.5	0	-.1
Unemployment Rate	2.7	2.7	3.4	0	-.7

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

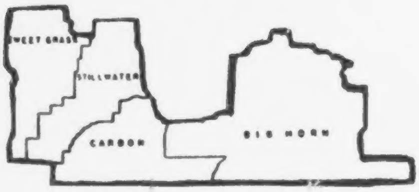
Construction activity highlights the area economy this period. Hiring increased each week as contractors began work on homes, apartment complexes, and a new raquetball court. Three projects which should help ease the housing shortage in Glendive were announced this month; they are a 60-unit motel and two apartment complexes of 32 and 24 units.

Two synthetic fuel plants are still being considered for construction in the area. Further planning needs to be done and nothing is certain at this time. Dawson County coal deposits would be used to produce natural gas and gasoline.

Weather slowed the activity of seismic crews. There was some occasional hiring in these occupations and the local labor supply has been sufficient. Two new drilling rigs moved into the area from Canada, but have not hired any local workers.

Activity in agriculture and retail trade was steady with some hiring occuring in each industry. Seeding of wheat and sugar beets and field work were the main activities in agriculture.

HARDIN - RED LODGE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	13.3	13.1	12.8	.2	.5
Employment	12.6	12.3	12.1	.3	.5
Unemployment	.7	.8	.7	-.1	0
Unemployment Rate	5.4	6.5	5.4	-1.1	0

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Spring-time agriculture activities are progressing at a good pace. Calving and lambing as well as shearing operations are nearly complete. Planting is ahead of normal due to the mild weather. Twenty-five percent of the sugar-beet crop was planted by mid-April. The army cut-worm is destroying some winter wheat and alfalfa in Carbon County.

Exploration continues for platinum group metals and could employ 20 to 25 people this summer. Full scale development of the ore body in the upper Boulder could mean mining 2,000 tons of ore per day and hauling 60 tons of concentrate to a smelter in Big Timber. The total operation could employ about 500 people.

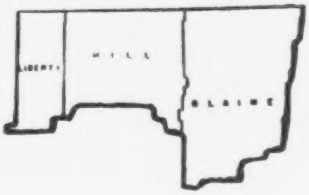
A coal mine in Big Horn County is expanding by an additional 770 acres. The current operation is on about 1,300 acres of coal leases and produces 5.4 million tons of coal annually. Production will increase to about eight million tons annually in 1985. By 1996, operations will cease at the mine after producing approximately 120 million tons of coal.

A new oil and gas well near Belfry is producing 320,000 cubic feet of natural gas and 10 barrels of oil a day. The depth of this well is about 9,900 feet. Two other wells are being drilled to further test the area for oil and gas.

Construction work on water and sewer facilities at Spring Creek was delayed by the State Board of Health until revised plans are approved. Bids will be let this summer and fall for a $2.1 million water project at Red Lodge. Construction could begin on the first phase of a 500,000 gallon storage reservoir this fall. The second phase includes a treatment plant and distribution system. The Farm Home Administration will provide $1.6 million in low interest loans and $500,000 in grants for the project.

The proposed ethanol plant for Big Timber is at a standstill until it can find financing. Federal Budget cuts eliminated the funds for the project.

HAVRE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	12.8	12.1	12.5	.7	.3
Employment	12.0	11.2	11.7	.8	.3
Unemployment	.8	.9	.8	-.1	0
Unemployment Rate	5.9	7.4	6.3	-1.5	-.4

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A 40-unit motor hotel and mini-convention center is in the planning stages in Chinook. The two-story complex would house a swimming pool, coffee shop, dining room, banquet facilities, cocktail lounge, a multi-use area and a raquetball court. A Chinook bank will undergo extensive remodeling which should be completed in September of this year. The total cost of the project amounts to about $385,000.

Several businesses have annouced plans to build in Havre. An anhydrous ammonia storage facility is planned west of the city contingent on site approval by the zoning board. Preliminary approval has been given for a 58-unit trailer park. A motel and office building are also in the works. Construction has begun on the new facilities of two local groceries. A fast-food restaurant has started work on its building.

Some local grain elevators will be modified this summer to handle 52 car unit grain trains. The expansion program will involve primarily trackage. Sidings will be extended to handle the 52 grain cars involved in the loadings. The program is the result of long-range studies done by the company and will cost more than $1.6 million statewide.

HELENA LMA

LEWIS AND CLARK
BROADWATER
JEFFERSON

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	28.3	28.0	28.1	.3	.2
Employment	26.9	26.4	26.6	.5	.3
Unemployment	1.4	1.6	1.5	-.2	-.1
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.8	5.3	-.7	-.2

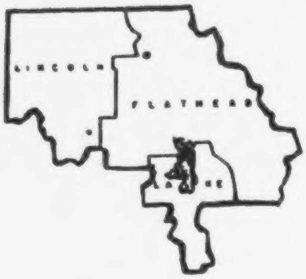
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The affect of federal and state budget cuts is presenting problems in Helena where the economy is dependent on government employment. Some state employees have already received pink slips and others may be given out as the current fiscal years (state and federal) end. It is estimated that about 460 full-time equivalent positions will be eliminated or shuffled into other departments. Many of the positions are currently vacant due to hiring freezes that were imposed earlier this year by department heads. Not all of these are in Helena, but most of them are since the central offices of the state agencies are located there. Estimates of the total number of employees that will be laid off from permanent positions by July 1 may be as high as 150.

Bids for some highway construction jobs have been opened in the area. The apparent low bid was $3.4 million to replace the condemned bridge on the York Road. About ten miles of guardrail will be installed on U.S. 287 between Townsend and Toston at a cost of $79,823. Remodeling of the rest areas on Interstate 15 between Helena and Great Falls has been bid at $18,850. The Highway Commission reviews these bids before the contracts are awarded.

A sawmill that has been closed down since late last fall was reopened. As of March 30, the mill had 55 people employed and working full-time and expected to add 13 more as the weather improved. A new restaurant and bar opened in Helena employing approximately thirty people. Inquiries have been received by the Job Service on the availability of help from two small out-of-state firms that plan on locating here.

The State's biennial legislature comes to a close near the end of April and the temporary positive influence to Helena's economy is withdrawn. As the legislators and other people who come to town because of the session leave, a rather large payroll that is spent in the area ends. The lack of this extra spending will be felt by the local retail and service industries. Many people who work at the capitol to help with the legislation will be laid off and seeking new employment.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	37.0	35.7	37.3	1.3	-.3
Employment	32.5	31.5	33.1	1.0	-.6
Unemployment	4.5	4.2	4.2	.3	.3
Unemployment Rate	12.1	11.9	11.2	.2	.9

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Kalispell LMA reported little change during this reporting period. The manufacturing industry remains pretty much the same with the lumber mills nearly halted due to the depressed lumber market. Due to exceptionally good weather, spring break-up in the logging industry may be very short. However, the mills may not accept many logs because they are trying to control their inventories.

The new brake shoe manufacturing plant is installing the machinery and preparing to start production. The plant is expected to open sometime in May. Besides this, no other activity is anticipated that would increase payrolls in the manufacturing industry.

In Polson there is $64,000 available to homeowners in the west side project. Homeowners can get this money in the form of loans, grants and deferred loans. This is part of a total of $400,000 that will be spent on housing rehabilitation, street paving, storm sewers and water facilities in the area this summer. Work continues on the new airport terminal for Flathead County. The expected completion date is sometime this summer.

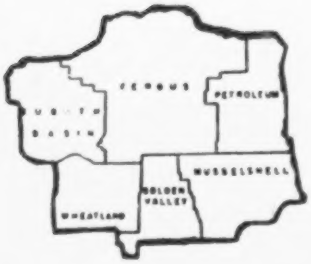
In the agricultural sector, seed potato sorting and shipping continues. Spring work creates a need for general farm and ranch hands.

Layoffs are expected as a telephone company in Libby announced a staff cut of five persons. At the same time, 16 workers are returning to work at an aluminum plant in Columbia Falls. The persons returning to work at this plant are persons with seniority status.

LEWISTOWN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	10.3	9.7	10.4	.6	-.1
Employment	9.8	9.2	9.9	.6	-.1
Unemployment	.5	.5	.5	0	0
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.5	4.5	-.8	.2

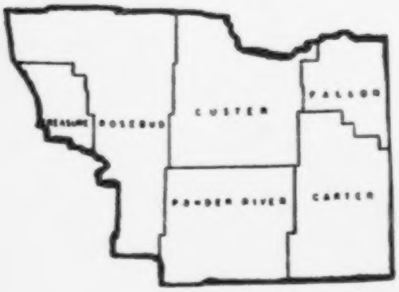
Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Warmer weather in the area had a noticeable effect on the economy this period. Workers were called back in agriculture, construction, and logging industries as employers began operations again. Calving operations slowed down and spring field work activity increased in agriculture. There was a steady demand through the period for both temporary and year-round workers in ag-related occupations.

Work continued on several large construction projects. More construction workers were called back from lay-off status; however, these were mostly in building trades--there were no reports of road crews being called back. An announcement was made of a plan to convert an old hospital into 35 apartments; no date was mentioned for when work might begin.

Activity in other occupations was steady. There was little hiring in retail and service industries; though, many merchants report business is up a little over last year.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	16.7	16.3	15.7	.4	1.0
Employment	15.9	15.4	15.0	.5	.9
Unemployment	.8	.9	.7	-.1	.1
Unemployment Rate	4.7	5.5	4.7	-.8	0

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Continued moderate climate has allowed ongoing construction projects to progress ahead of schedule, but new construction work is very limited. In Miles City, the only major construction projects thus far announced are a new lodge being built at a state institution and a small shopping complex that includes a convenience store, car wash, laundromat and doughnut shop. Miles City's housing development is also having a slow start as indicated by the following January-March total new home permits: 1981 - 4, 1980 - 8, and 1979 - 34.

Construction on Colstrip electric generating units 3 and 4 is now 17 percent complete. The work force total is now about 1,200 and should approach 2,000 by this fall. Unit 3 is planned for operation by October, 1983 and unit 4 in April, 1985. Turn-around (overhauling plants 1 and 2) is scheduled to begin the first part of April. This work will involve about 200 trade union personnel for two months.

A Colstrip banker requested from the Montana Board of Housing special assistance to deal with a boom-town housing crisis. The sudden pressure of energy development has Colstrip currently growing by 50 people per week and housing is at a premium. Specifically, the board has been asked to channel some of its reserve funds into home financing in Colstrip.

Most of the LMA is in need of moisture. Many area ranchers are still giving supplemental feed. College students are starting to register for summer work at the Job Service office. The retail trade industry has stabilized for the moment with hopes of moisture in the near future.

SANDERS
MINERAL
MISSOULA
RAVALLI

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	49.8	49.0	49.0	.8	.8
Employment	45.1	43.9	45.0	1.2	.1
Unemployment	4.7	5.1	4.0	-.4	.7
Unemployment Rate	*9.4*	*10.4*	*8.1*	*-1.0*	*1.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A major redevelopment for downtown Missoula has been proposed. The plan would include renovation of a hotel, construction of a restaurant, retail and office space, an indoor skating rink, medium income housing, a health club, and multi-screen theater. Covered walkways would be constructed throughout the facility. To become a reality, $20 million in private and public must be located.

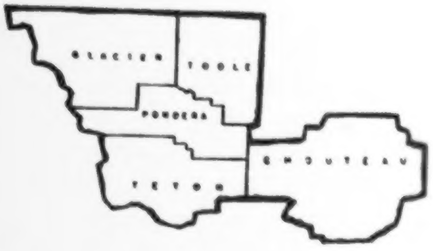
Other future developments have been approved. The Missoula City Council ratified a $4 million plan for more downtown parking space. Ravalli County Commissioners have endorsed $500,000 in industrial bonds for the construction of a research laboratory near Corvallis. State legislators will commit $8.6 million for a fine arts building at the University of Montana if the university raises $1.1 million of the building costs from private sources. In Missoula, a new hospital is planned to start construction in the summer of 1982. A 38-unit apartment valued at $1 million has been issued a building permit by the Missoula officials. A plastic manufacturer in Hamilton has secured a large contract to produce military helmets.

New single dwelling building permits issued by the Missoula City-County planning board are less than the previous two years first quarter permits. The January-March totals are as follows: 1981 - 21, 1980 - 60, and 1979 - 96.

The lumber industry continues its on again-off again employment activity. A mill in Conner has curtailed one shift of workers indefinitely, while another mill at Trout Creek is back to full production after a two week shutdown.

The Lolo National Forest budget has been reduced by 15 percent. Forced reduction include several campground closures, and fewer firefighters, eliminating the Youth Conservation Corps. Also, timber sales for 1982 will be affected. The permanent work force of 400 will be reduced by 10 percent during the next year.

SHELBY - CUT BANK LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	17.2	16.5	16.9	.7	.3
Employment	16.2	15.4	15.8	.8	.4
Unemployment	1.0	1.1	1.1	-.1	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*6.0*	*6.7*	*6.3*	*-.7*	*-.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activity in the Shelby-Cut Bank LMA consists of oil and gas exploration in Choteau, a new water district in Loma and ongoing construction projects. The retail and service industries are beginning to pick up with the spring weather. Agricultural activity notes several new hires with spring farm and ranch work beginning.

Three contracts were awarded to low bidders for the Loma water district project. The first was a $581,520 bid for water system intake, treatment, storage and pumping. The second bid was for $119,026 to construct a municiple water system, and the third was a $879,962 bid for a rural water system. The bid schedule call for a 180 day construction period. The completion date is anticipated to be in the fall of 1981.

Choteau's population has grown by 150 persons due to the influx of workers on survey and drilling crews. The retail and service industry has grown substantially busier since the crews have moved in and all motels and hotels in the Choteau area are reported full.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Insured Unemployment*		
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Non-White	*15.8%*	*15.7%*	*14.8%*
Female	*18.7%*	*19.0%*	*18.3%*
Youth	*4.9%*	*5.2%*	*6.9%*
Over 45	*22.0%*	*21.6%*	*21.9%*

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. [1]

All Items

(1967 = 100)

	1979		1980		1981	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	204.7	204.7	233.2	233.3	260.5	260.7
February	207.1	207.1	236.4	236.5	263.2	263.3
March	209.1	209.3	239.8	239.9	265.1	265.2
April	211.5	211.8	242.5	242.6		
May	214.1	214.3	244.9	245.1		
June	216.6	216.9	247.6	247.8		
July	218.9	219.4	247.8	248.0		
August	221.1	221.5	249.4	249.6		
September	223.4	223.7	251.7	251.9		
October	225.4	225.6	253.9	254.1		
November	227.5	227.6	256.2	256.4		
December	229.9	230.0	258.4	258.7		
AVERAGE	217.4	217.7	246.8	247.0		

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[1] *The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.*

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent1/		
						Montana	U. S.	
1979								
January	348.7	321.0	299.5	21.3	27.7	*7.9*	*6.4*	*
February	349.2	324.6	301.4	23.2	24.6	*7.1*	*6.4*	1.1
March	353.7	331.1	303.3	27.8	22.6	*6.4*	*6.1*	*
April	364.2	343.8	309.6	34.2	20.4	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
May	373.0	356.0	320.7	35.3	17.0	*4 6*	*5.2*	.1
June	391.6	371.2	331.0	40.2	20.4	*5.2*	*6.0*	.1
July	388.5	370.9	327.9	43.0	17.6	*4.5*	*5.8*	*
August	391.1	375.4	329.4	46.0	15.7	*4.0*	*5.9*	.1
September	381.0	367.4	331.5	35.9	13.6	*3.6*	*5.6*	*
October	371.1	357.2	326.7	30.5	13.0	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
November	365.3	349.7	323.5	26.2	15.6	*4.3*	*5.6*	*
December	362.6	343.8	321.2	22.6	18.8	*5.2*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
1980								
January	354.8	329.9	309.1	20.8	24.9	*7.0*	*6.8*	.7
February	356.4	332.6	310.0	22.6	23.8	*6.7*	*6.8*	1.1
March	363.0	339.6	312.4	27.2	23.4	*6.5*	*6.6*	.7
April	370.7	347.2	313.8	33.4	23.5	*6.4*	*6.6*	.3
May	377.1	357.6	323.2	34.4	19.5	*5.2*	*7.0*	.2
June	394.7	370.9	331.7	39.2	23.8	*6.0*	*7.8*	.2
July	390.4	366.3	324.3	42.0	24.1	*6.2*	*7.9*	2.7
August	393.8	372.7	327.8	44.9	21.1	*5.4*	*7.5*	2.6
September	381.5	363.0	328.0	35.0	18.5	*4.8*	*7.1*	3.1
October	372.2	353.7	323.9	29.8	18.4	*5.0*	*7.1*	1.3
November	368.4	348.3	322.7	25.6	20.1	*5.5*	*7.1*	1.3
December	364.7	342.1	320.1	22.0	22.6	*6.2*	*6.9*	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	*6.0*	*7.1*	1.2
1981								
January	354.6	328.1	307.3	20.8	26.5	*7.5*	*8.2*	*
February	362.4	334.9	312.8	22.1	27.5	*7.6*	*8.0*	*1.0*
March	370.9	345.3	318.8	26.5	25.6	*6.9*	*7.7*	*
April	*372.3*	*349.4*	*316.8*	*32.6*	*22.9*	*6.2*		*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table II
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent 1/*		
						County	State	
1979								
January	33.3	30.2	29.4	.8	3.1	*9.4*	*7.9*	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	*8.3*	*7.1*	*
March	33.5	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.5	*7.5*	*6.4*	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.2	*6.5*	*5.6*	*
May	34.4	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.9	*5.5*	*4.6*	*
June	35.1	32.9	31.3	1.6	2.2	*6.2*	*5.2*	*
July	35.0	32.9	31.2	1.7	2.1	*6.0*	*4.5*	*
August	35.0	33.1	31.3	1.8	1.9	*5.5*	*4.0*	*
September	34.5	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.7	*4.8*	*3.6*	*
October	33.3	31.9	30.7	1.2	1.4	*4.1*	*3.8*	*
November	33.2	31.4	30.4	1.0	1.8	*5.4*	*4.3*	*
December	32.9	31.0	30.1	.9	1.9	*5.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	33.0	30.5	29.7	.8	2.5	*7.7*	*7.0*	*
February	33.0	30.7	29.8	.9	2.3	*7.0*	*6.7*	*
March	33.7	31.5	30.4	1.1	2.2	*6.6*	*6.5*	*
April	33.5	31.4	30.1	1.3	2.1	*6.3*	*6.4*	*
May	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	*5.6*	*5.2*	.2
June	34.8	32.1	30.5	1.6	2.7	*7.7*	*6.0*	.2
July	35.3	32.6	30.9	1.7	2.7	*7.8*	*6.2*	.5
August	35.5	33.1	31.3	1.8	2.4	*6.8*	*5.4*	.4
September	34.8	32.7	31.5	1.2	2.1	*6.0*	*4.8*	.4
October	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.2	2.3	*6.9*	*5.0*	*
November	34.1	31.7	30.7	1.0	2.4	*7.0*	*5.5*	*
December	34.0	31.5	30.5	1.0	2.5	*7.3*	*6.2*	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.0*	.2
1981								
January	33.5	30.8	30.0	.8	2.7	*8.1*	*7.5*	*
February	34.2	31.3	30.4	.9	2.9	*8.5*	*7.6*	*
March	34.6	32.0	31.0	1.0	2.6	*7.6*	*6.9*	*
April	*34.6*	*32.3*	*31.0*	*1.3*	*2.3*	*6.8*	*6.2*	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table III
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent1/*		
						County	State	
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	6.0	7.9	*
February	53.0	50.3	49.2	1.1	2.7	5.1	7.1	*
March	53.0	50.6	49.3	1.3	2.4	4.5	6.4	*
April	54.2	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.1	3.8	5.6	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	3.1	4.6	*
June	57.2	55.0	53.2	1.8	2.2	3.8	5.2	*
July	56.0	54.2	52.2	2.0	1.8	3.2	4.5	*
August	57.0	55.3	53.2	2.1	1.7	3.0	4.0	*
September	56.3	54.8	53.2	1.6	1.5	2.6	3.6	*
October	55.7	54.2	52.8	1.4	1.5	2.6	3.8	*
November	55.7	54.0	52.8	1.2	1.7	3.1	4.3	*
December	55.3	53.3	52.3	1.0	2.0	3.7	5.2	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	54.9	52.0	51.0	1.0	2.9	5.3	7.0	.6
February	55.1	52.2	51.2	1.0	2.9	5.3	6.7	.7
March	55.4	52.5	51.3	1.2	2.9	5.3	6.5	.3
April	55.5	53.0	51.5	1.5	2.5	4.4	6.4	*
May	56.1	54.0	52.4	1.6	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	58.5	55.6	53.8	1.8	2.9	5.0	6.0	*
July	57.8	54.9	53.0	1.9	2.9	5.0	6.2	*
August	58.2	55.6	53.5	2.1	2.6	4.5	5.4	*
September	57.7	55.4	54.0	1.4	2.3	4.0	4.8	*
October	57.2	55.0	53.6	1.4	2.2	3.8	5.0	*
November	57.0	54.8	53.6	1.2	2.2	3.8	5.5	*
December	57.3	54.7	53.7	1.0	2.6	4.5	6.2	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	4.6	6.0	.1
1981								
January	55.8	52.7	51.8	.9	3.1	5.6	7.5	*
February	57.1	53.8	52.8	1.0	3.3	5.8	7.6	*
March	57.7	54.7	53.5	1.2	3.0	5.1	6.9	*
April	*58.5*	*55.8*	*54.4*	*1.5*	*2.7*	*4.6*	*6.2*	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*
** Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	March 1981	Feb. 1981	March 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Feb. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month from: March 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS1/	370.9	362.4	363.0	8.5	7.9
EMPLOYED PERSONS	345.3	334.9	339.6	10.4	5.7
Persons Employed in Agriculture	26.5	22.1	27.2	4.4	-.7
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	25.6	27.5	23.4	-1.9	2.2
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted2/	*6.9*	*7.6*	*6.5*	*-.7*	*.4*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted2/	*5.9*	*6.2*	*5.8*	*-.3*	*.1*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	276.4	275.2	274.6	1.2	1.8
MANUFACTURING	22.6	22.6	24.2	0	-1.6
Durable Goods	13.7	13.7	15.6	0	-1.9
24 Lumber and Wood Products	9.0	8.9	9.3	.1	-.3
33 Primary Metal Industries	1.9	1.9	3.1	0	-1.2
Other Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	3.2	0	-.4
Nondurable Goods	8.9	8.9	8.5	0	.4
20 Food and Kindred Products	3.9	3.9	3.9	0	0
27 Printing and Publishing	2.4	2.4	2.2	0	.2
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.0	1.0	.8	0	.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.7	1.6	0	.1
MINING	7.7	7.7	8.4	0	-.7
10 Metal Mining	1.6	1.6	2.3	0	-.7
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	2.2	2.2	2.2	0	0
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	3.9	3.9	3.9	0	0
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	12.0	11.4	11.5	.6	.5
15 General Building Contractors	4.0	3.8	4.0	.2	0
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	3.1	2.6	2.5	.5	.5
17 Special Trade Contractors	4.9	5.0	5.0	-.1	-.1
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.4	23.3	22.5	.1	.9
40 Railroad Transportation	7.5	7.5	6.8	0	.7
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.2	6.2	6.4	0	-.2
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	9.7	9.6	9.3	.1	.4
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	70.6	70.1	70.3	.5	.3
Wholesale Trade	18.0	17.9	17.5	.1	.5
Retail Trade	52.6	52.2	52.8	.4	-.2
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	7.7	7.7	7.9	0	-.2
54 Food Stores	7.6	7.8	7.7	-.2	-.1
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.7	7.6	7.8	.1	-.1
58 Eating and Drinking Places	19.0	18.5	18.8	.5	.2
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	10.6	10.6	10.7	0	-.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	12.7	12.6	12.7	.1	0
SERVICES	56.4	56.3	54.5	.1	1.9
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	6.7	6.6	6.2	.1	.5
72 Personal Services	2.7	2.7	2.6	0	.1
80 Medical and other Health Services	18.6	18.6	18.0	0	.6
Other Services	28.3	28.3	27.6	0	.7
GOVERNMENT	71.0	71.1	70.6	-.1	.4
91 Federal Government	13.0	12.8	12.6	.2	.4
92 State Colleges and Universities	8.3	8.3	8.3	0	0
92 Other State Government	10.8	10.8	10.7	0	.1
93 Local Education	25.0	24.9	25.3	.1	-.3
93 Other Local Government	14.0	14.3	13.8	0	.2

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(Establishment Data in italics)

TABLE V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	March 1981	Feb. 1981	March 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Feb. 1981	March 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/	34.6	34.2	33.7	.4	.9
EMPLOYED PERSONS	32.0	31.3	31.5	.7	.5
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.0	.9	1.1	.1	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.6	2.9	2.2	-.3	.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/	*7.6*	*8.5*	*6.6*	*-1.1*	*1.0*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/	*7.0*	*7.4*	*6.0*	*-.4*	*1.0*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	29.2	28.8	29.0	.4	.2
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.7	0	-.4
Contract Construction	1.4	1.2	1.3	.2	.1
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.9	1.9	1.8	0	.1
Trade	9.5	9.4	9.3	.1	.2
Wholesale Trade	3.0	3.0	2.8	0	.2
Retail Trade	6.5	6.4	6.6	.1	-.1
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	-.1
Services and Mining	7.0	6.9	7.0	.1	0
Government	6.1	6.0	5.9	.1	.2
Federal Government	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
State and Local Government	4.3	4.3	4.1	0	.2

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Current month preliminary

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

TABLE VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY				Net Changes to Current Month from:	
	March 1981	Feb. 1981	March 1980	Feb. 1981	March 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS1/	57.7	57.1	55.4	.6	2.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	54.7	53.8	52.5	.9	2.2
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.2	1.0	1.2	.2	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	3.0	3.3	2.9	-.3	.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted2/	*5.1*	*5.8*	*5.3*	*-.6*	*-.2*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted2/	*4.4*	*4.8*	*4.5*	*-.4*	*-.1*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	47.5	46.9	45.9	.6	1.6
Manufacturing	4.1	4.1	4.0	0	.1
Contract Construction	2.5	2.1	2.0	.4	.5
Transportation and Public Utilties	4.8	4.8	4.5	0	.3
Trade	15.5	15.5	15.6	0	-.1
Wholesale Trade	5.7	5.7	5.6	0	.1
Retail Trade	9.8	9.7	10.0	.1	-.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.3	2.2	2.2	.1	.1
Services and Mining	10.2	10.2	9.7	0	.5
Government	8.1	8.1	7.8	0	.3
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
State and Local Government	6.6	6.5	6.3	.1	.3

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Current month preliminary

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			3/ UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981
STATEWIDE	354.6	362.4	370.9	328.1	334.9	345.3	26.5	27.5	25.6	7.5	7.6	6.9
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.5	34.2	34.6	30.8	31.3	32.0	2.7	2.9	2.6	8.1	8.5	7.6
BILLINGS SMSA	55.8	57.1	57.7	52.7	53.8	54.7	3.1	3.3	3.0	5.6	5.8	5.1
BALANCE OF STATE[2]	265.3	271.0	278.6	244.7	249.7	258.6	20.6	21.3	20.0	7.8	7.9	7.2
ANACONDA-BUTTE	33.5	34.0	34.6	30.7	31.1	31.9	2.8	2.9	2.7	8.5	8.5	7.7
BOZEMAN	24.9	25.3	25.8	23.2	23.5	24.2	1.7	1.8	1.6	6.9	7.1	6.2
GLASGOW	15.5	16.1	17.0	14.7	15.2	16.1	.8	.9	.9	5.2	5.6	5.1
GLENDIVE	14.7	15.0	15.7	14.3	14.6	15.3	.4	.4	.4	3.0	2.7	2.7
HARDIN-RED LODGE	12.9	13.1	13.3	12.1	12.3	12.6	.8	.8	.7	5.9	6.5	5.4
HAVRE	11.8	12.1	12.8	10.9	11.2	12.0	.9	.9	.8	7.3	7.4	5.9
HELENA	27.4	28.0	28.3	25.7	26.4	26.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	6.1	5.8	5.1
KALISPELL	35.1	35.7	37.0	31.1	31.5	32.5	4.0	4.2	4.5	11.4	11.9	12.1
LEWISTOWN	9.5	9.7	10.3	8.9	9.2	9.8	.6	.5	.5	5.9	5.5	4.7
MILES CITY	15.7	16.3	16.7	14.8	15.4	15.9	.9	.9	.8	5.5	5.5	4.7
MISSOULA	48.2	49.0	49.8	43.3	43.9	45.1	4.9	5.1	4.7	10.3	10.4	9.4
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.2	16.5	17.2	15.1	15.4	16.2	1.1	1.1	1.0	6.8	6.7	6.0

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
3/ Unemployment rate is computed from whole numbers.

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			3/ UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Mar. 1981	Mar. 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	Mar. 1981	Mar. 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	Mar. 1981	Mar. 1980	Net Change 1980-1981	Mar. 1981	Mar. 1980	Net Change 1980-1981
STATEWIDE	370.9	362.9	*.2*	345.3	339.5	*1.7*	25.6	23.4	*2.2*	6.9	6.5	*.4*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.6	33.6	*3.0*	32.0	31.4	*1.9*	2.6	2.2	*.4*	7.6	6.6	*1.0*
BILLINGS SMSA	57.7	55.4	*4.2*	54.7	52.5	*4.4*	3.0	2.9	*.1*	5.1	5.3	*-.2*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	278.6	273.9	*1.7*	258.6	255.6	*1.2*	20.0	18.3	*1.7*	7.2	6.7	*.5*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	34.6	33.9	*2.1*	31.9	31.9	*0*	2.7	2.0	*.7*	7.7	5.9	*1.8*
BOZEMAN	25.8	26.2	*-1.5*	24.2	24.5	*-1.2*	1.6	1.7	*-.1*	6.2	6.4	*-.2*
GLASGOW	17.0	16.2	*4.9*	16.1	15.5	*3.9*	.9	.7	*.2*	5.1	4.5	*-.6*
GLENDIVE	15.7	14.9	*5.4*	15.3	14.4	*6.3*	.4	.5	*-.1*	2.7	3.4	*-.7*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.3	12.8	*3.9*	12.6	12.1	*4.1*	.7	.7	*0*	5.4	5.4	*0*
HAVRE	12.8	12.5	*2.4*	12.0	11.7	*2.6*	.8	.8	*0*	5.9	6.3	*-.4*
HELENA	28.3	28.1	*.7*	26.9	26.6	*1.1*	1.4	1.5	*-.1*	5.1	5.3	*-.2*
KALISPELL	37.0	37.3	*-.8*	32.5	33.1	*-1.8*	4.5	4.2	*.3*	12.1	11.2	*.9*
LEWISTOWN	10.3	10.4	*-1.0*	9.8	9.9	*-1.0*	.5	.5	*0*	4.7	4.5	*.2*
MILES CITY	16.7	15.7	*6.4*	15.9	15.0	*6.0*	.8	.7	*.1*	4.7	4.7	*0*
MISSOULA	49.8	49.0	*1.6*	45.1	45.0	*.2*	4.7	4.0	*.7*	9.4	8.1	*1.3*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	17.2	16.9	*1.8*	16.2	15.8	*2.5*	1.0	1.1	*-.1*	6.0	6.3	*-.3*

[1/] *A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.*
[2/] *Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.*
[3/] *Unemployment rate is computed from whole unrounded numbers.*

TABLE IX-A

February 1981

(Revised)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	362368	334862	27506	7.6
CASCADE	34214	31318	2896	8.5
YELLOWSTONE	57123	53819	3304	5.8
BEAVERHEAD	3954	3740	214	5.4
BIG HORN	5528	5095	433	7.8
BLAINE	2667	2382	285	10.7
BROADWATER	1270	1157	113	8.9
CARBON	3335	3155	180	5.4
CARTER	719	704	15	2.1
CHOUTEAU	2630	2562	68	2.6
CUSTER	6171	5794	377	6.1
DANIELS	1348	1269	79	5.9
DAWSON	5724	5540	184	3.2
DEER LODGE	4789	3925	864	18.0
FALLON	2286	2244	42	1.8
FERGUS	5494	5161	333	6.1
FLATHEAD	22040	19616	2424	11.0
GALLATIN	18700	17566	1134	6.1
GARFIELD	761	751	10	1.3
GLACIER	5404	4762	642	11.9
GOLDEN VALLEY	345	327	18	5.2
GRANITE	1102	1020	82	7.4
HILL	8421	7833	588	7.0
JEFFERSON	2316	2144	172	7.4
JUDITH BASIN	999	949	50	5.0
LAKE	7283	6573	710	9.7
LEWIS AND CLARK	24466	23122	1344	5.5
LIBERTY	1044	1014	30	2.9
LINCOLN	6417	5290	1127	17.6
MC CONE	1069	1049	20	1.9
MADISON	2127	1986	141	6.6
MEAGHER	1012	918	94	9.3
MINERAL	1846	1622	224	12.1
MISSOULA	36125	32726	3399	9.4
MUSSELSHELL	1527	1460	67	4.4
PARK	5603	5024	579	10.3
PETROLEUM	267	245	22	8.2
PHILLIPS	2945	2779	166	5.6
PONDERA	3367	3221	146	4.3
POWDER RIVER	1070	1044	26	2.4
POWELL	3573	3343	230	6.4
PRAIRIE	787	755	32	4.1
RAVALLI	7178	6172	1006	14.0
RICHLAND	6006	5869	137	2.3
ROOSEVELT	4723	4439	284	6.0
ROSEBUD	5627	5206	421	7.5
SANDERS	3912	3416	496	12.7
SHERIDAN	2900	2864	36	1.2
SILVER BOW	18426	17060	1366	7.4
STILLWATER	2606	2433	173	6.6
SWEET GRASS	1656	1595	61	3.7
TETON	2588	2448	140	5.4
TOOLE	2476	2376	100	4.0
TREASURE	412	397	15	3.6
VALLEY	4236	3894	342	8.1
WHEATLAND	1126	1080	46	4.1
WIBAUX	628	609	19	3.0

BEST AVA

TABLE IX-B

March 1981

(Preliminary)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	370883	345325	25558	6.9
CASCADE	34596	31954	2642	7.6
YELLOWSTONE	57719	54752	2967	5.1
BEAVERHEAD	4162	3960	202	4.9
BIG HORN	5830	5431	399	6.8
BLAINE	2909	2686	223	7.7
BROADWATER	1380	1287	93	6.7
CARBON	3454	3293	161	4.7
CARTER	790	775	15	1.9
CHOUTEAU	2830	2770	60	2.1
CUSTER	6206	5876	330	5.3
DANIELS	1372	1336	36	2.6
DAWSON	5973	5777	196	3.3
DEER LODGE	4612	3789	823	17.8
FALLON	2415	2374	41	1.7
FERGUS	5737	5425	312	5.4
FLATHEAD	22606	20139	2467	10.9
GALLATIN	19033	18011	1022	5.4
GARFIELD	816	807	9	1.1
GLACIER	5553	4930	623	11.2
GOLDEN VALLEY	370	361	9	2.4
GRANITE	1152	1056	96	8.3
HILL	8728	8233	495	5.7
JEFFERSON	2337	2194	143	6.1
JUDITH BASIN	1064	1030	34	3.2
LAKE	7566	6953	613	8.1
LEWIS AND CLARK	24636	23432	1204	4.9
LIBERTY	1136	1106	30	2.6
LINCOLN	6844	5435	1409	20.6
MC CONE	1155	1136	19	1.6
MADISON	2233	2109	124	5.6
MEAGHER	1041	977	64	6.1
MINERAL	1808	1590	218	12.1
MISSOULA	36548	33510	3038	8.3
MUSSELSHELL	1673	1601	72	4.3
PARK	5751	5243	508	8.8
PETROLEUM	277	269	8	2.9
PHILLIPS	2902	2771	131	4.5
PONDERA	3508	3382	126	3.6
POWDER RIVER	1154	1123	31	2.7
POWELL	3758	3528	230	6.1
PRAIRIE	837	804	33	3.9
RAVALLI	7511	6568	943	12.6
RICHLAND	6302	6156	146	2.3
ROOSEVELT	5121	4821	300	5.9
ROSEBUD	5674	5314	360	6.3
SANDERS	3906	3421	485	12.4
SHERIDAN	2990	2940	50	1.7
SILVER BOW	18634	17434	1200	6.4
STILLWATER	2221	2111	110	5.0
SWEET GRASS	1826	1770	56	3.1
TETON	2681	2584	97	3.6
TOOLE	2651	2529	122	4.6
TREASURE	430	416	14	3.3
VALLEY	4618	4264	354	7.7
WHEATLAND	1178	1132	46	3.9
WIBAUX	669	650	19	2.8

LABLE COPY

1979 ANNUAL AVERAGES
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	370000*	351000	19000	5.1
CASCADE	33918	31808*	2110	6.2
YELLOWSTONE	55110*	53074*	2036*	3.7
BEAVERHEAD	4100*	3948*	152	3.7
BIG HORN	5886*	5590*	296	5.0
BLAINE	3093	2879	214	6.9
BROADWATER	1632	1568	64	3.9
CARBON	3238*	3097*	141*	4.4
CARTER	910	839	71	7.8
CHOUTEAU	2985*	2919*	66	2.2
CUSTER	5964*	5759*	205	3.4
DANIELS	1438	1409	29	2.0
DAWSON	5788*	5588*	200	3.5
DEER LODGE	5437*	5057*	380	7.0
FALLON	2291*	2242*	49	2.1
FERGUS	6079*	5870*	209	3.4
FLATHEAD	23492*	21866*	1626	6.9
GALLATIN	19646*	18882*	764	3.9
GARFIELD	846	806	40	4.7
GLACIER	5639*	5161*	478	8.5
GOLDEN VALLEY	402	385	17	4.2
GRANITE	1116	1030	86	7.7
HILL	8850*	8479*	371	4.2
JEFFERSON	2293*	2121*	172	7.5
JUDITH BASIN	1225	1124	101	8.2
LAKE	8119*	7625*	494	6.1
LEWIS AND CLARK	24404*	23233*	1171	4.8
LIBERTY	1127*	1091*	36	3.2
LINCOLN	7194*	6444*	750	10.4
MC CONE	1264*	1243*	21	1.7
MADISON	2439*	2366*	73	3.0
MEAGHER	1106	1062	44	4.0
MINERAL	1708*	1579*	129	7.6*
MISSOULA	36205*	33954*	2251	6.2
MUSSELSHELL	1902*	1853*	49	2.6
PARK	5926*	5608*	318	5.4
PETROLEUM	333	328	5	1.5
PHILLIPS	2704*	2603*	101	3.7
PONDERA	3508*	3378*	130	3.7
POWDER RIVER	1284*	1248*	36	2.8
POWELL	3362*	3171*	191	5.7
PRAIRIE	874*	850*	24	2.7
RAVALLI	7904*	7300*	604	7.6
RICHLAND	5482*	5377*	105	1.9
ROOSEVELT	5341*	5090*	251	4.7
ROSEBUD	4575*	4344*	231	5.0
SANDERS	3879*	3569*	310	8.0
SHERIDAN	2865*	2822*	43*	1.5
SILVER BOW	18331*	17195*	1136	6.2
STILLWATER	2263	2188	75	3.3
SWEET GRASS	1722	1701	21	1.2
TETON	2860*	2760*	100	3.5
TOOLE	2819*	2706*	113	4.0
TREASURE	439	425	14	3.2
VALLEY	4767*	4520*	247*	5.2
WHEATLAND	1193	1165	28	2.3
WIBAUX	727	705	22	3.0

* Stars indicate correction to the 1980 Benchmark numbers published in February Labor Force.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE X

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:		Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
	Mar. 1981 1/	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981		Feb. 1981	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	133.0	132.7	130.9	.3	2.1	276.4	48.1%	275.2	48.2%
Manufacturing	2.8	2.8	3.3	0	-.5	22.6	12.4%	22.6	12.4%
Mining	.5	.5	.5	0	0	7.7	6.5%	7.7	6.5%
Contract Construction	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	.1	12.0	12.5%	11.4	13.2%
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.3	4.3	4.3	0	0	23.4	18.4%	23.3	18.5%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.3	35.4	35.6	-.1	-.3	70.6	50.0%	70.1	50.5%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.3	8.3	8.4	0	-.1	12.7	65.4%	12.6	65.9%
Services	35.5	35.5	34.3	.2	1.2	56.4	62.9%	56.3	62.7%
Government2/	44.7	44.6	43.1	.1	1.6	71.0	63.0%	71.1	62.7%

1/ Current month preliminary. *Revised to 1980 Benchmark.* *Establishment Series began January 1974.*

2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

1980

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9	130.9	129.4	129.5	134.0	128.7	129.8	130.5	132.6	133.2	133.1	131.5
Manufacturing..................	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Mining........................	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction..........	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.......	36.5	36.5	35.6	35.7	36.0	35.9	36.2	36.1	35.9	35.9	36.1	36.7	36.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.4
Services.......................	36.2	36.2	34.3	34.5	34.1	37.2	37.2	34.2	34.1	34.5	34.7	34.7	35.2
Government.....................	42.5	42.5	43.1	41.9	42.1	43.3	37.6	41.7	42.9	43.8	44.6	43.9	42.5

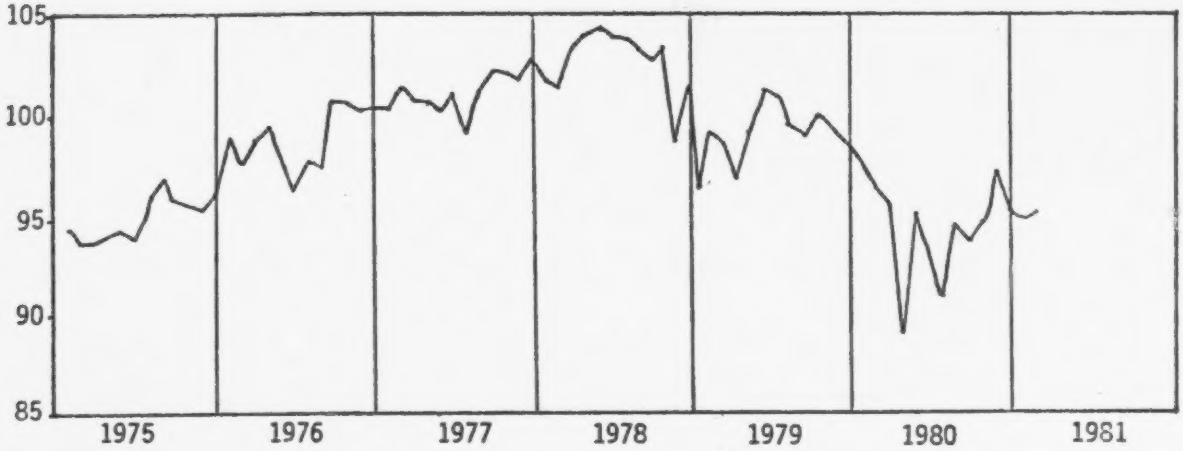
1981

Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	131.7	132.7	133.0
Manufacturing..................	2.9	2.8	2.8
Mining........................	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction..........	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.4	4.3	4.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade.......	35.5	35.4	35.3
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.3	8.3
Services.......................	34.5	35.5	35.5
Government.....................	44.0	44.6	44.7

1/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged. Establishment Series began January, 1974. Revised to 1980 Benchmark.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



Monthly Figures of Composite Index

1972 = 100

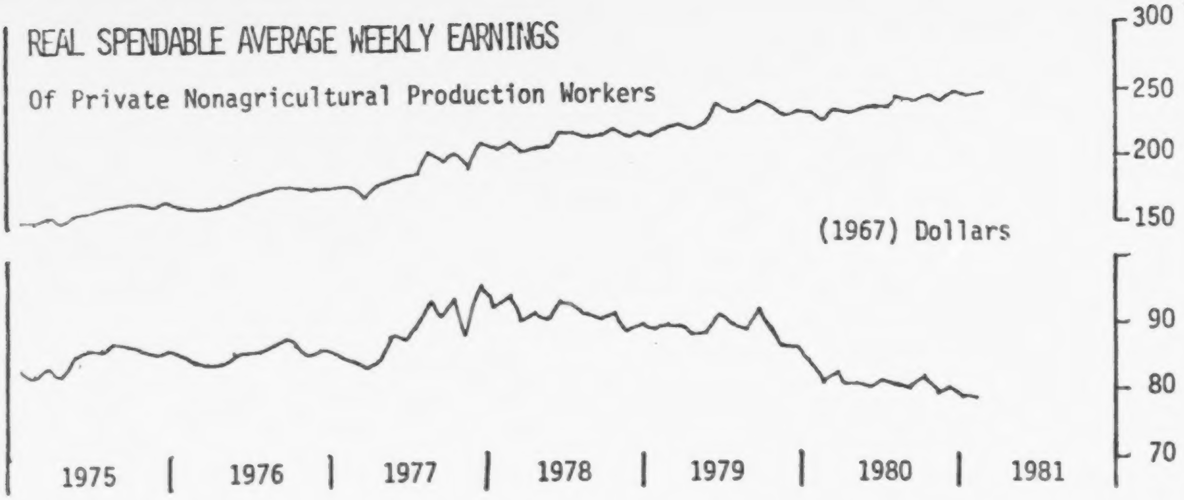
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
January	94.8	99.1	100.4	101.9	96.8	97.2	95.1
February	94.1	97.9	101.6	101.7	99.3	96.2	95.4
March	94.2	98.6	100.8	103.5	98.9	95.4	
April	94.4	99.5	100.8	104.2	97.2	88.6	
May	94.6	98.4	100.4	104.3	99.4	94.3	
June	96.5	96.8	101.1	104.0	101.3	92.6	
July	96.3	98.0	99.4	103.8	101.0	90.4	
August	97.7	97.9	101.2	103.2	99.8	93.9	
September	96.3	100.8	102.3	102.8	99.6	93.3	
October	96.1	100.7	102.2	103.6	100.5	95.0	
November	95.8	100.5	101.9	99.0	99.8	97.4	
December	96.5	100.5	102.9	101.5	98.7	95.5	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

After two months of decline, the Composite Index moved upward again to 95.4. One reason for the increase was the manufacturing layoff rate dropped from 3.0 in January to 1.5 in February. Two other components registering positive movement were manufacturing average weekly hours and manufacturing employment. Average weekly initial claims and building permits both showed substantial negative movement during February. No big change is expected in the Composite Index during March

Components of Composite Index:

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.



REAL SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

Of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers

	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1981	Feb. 1980
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	247.52	245.28	224.93
3/ Taxes Withheld	41.46	40.81	33.87
Spendable Earnings	206.06	204.48	191.06
Adjustment for Price Changes since 1967	127.86	126.04	110.27
Real Spendable Earnings	78.20	78.44	80.79

	1) Average Weekly Earnings			2) Real Spendable Earnings		
	1981	1980	1979	1981	1980	1979
January	245.28	232.60	215.42	78.44	84.36	89.20
Febuary	247.52	224.93	219.57	78.20	80.79	89.60
March		234.24	221.43		82.44	89.29
April		232.23	220.68		80.94	88.10
May		234.15	225.42		80.67	88.52
June		234.97	236.99		80.02	91.26
July		238.82	233.87		81.08	89.41
August		239.47	234.99		80.75	88.73
September		241.60	238.74		80.63	91.96
October		246.66	236.90		81.37	89.02
November		241.89	230.62		79.29	86.22
December		247.75	233.24		80.21	86.12

Real Spendable Earnings

Real spendable average weekly earnings continued to fall due to the rising rate of inflation. Real spendable earnings dropped from $78.44 per week to $78.20 per week. These numbers are considerably lower than real spendable earnings of $80.79 in February, 1980. Gross average weekly earnings rose back to the December 1980 level after a slight decrease in January. Gross earnings of $247.52 in February compare to $224.93 in February, 1980.

1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultrual production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

Table XII

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1]		
						Montana	U. S.	
1979								
January	369.7	347.0	314.4	32.6	22.7	*6.1*	*5.8*	*
February	369.0	348.3	315.7	32.6	20.9	*5.6*	*5.7*	1.1
March	367.1	347.4	314.9	32.5	19.7	*5.4*	*5.7*	*
April	368.7	348.7	316.3	32.4	20.0	*5.4*	*5.8*	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.8	32.3	19.4	*5.2*	*5.8*	.1
June	372.7	354.0	321.8	32.2	18.7	*5.0*	*5.7*	.1
July	368.0	349.9	317.8	32.1	18.1	*4.9*	*5.7*	*
August	368.1	350.6	318.6	32.0	17.5	*4.8*	*5.9*	.1
September	370.2	352.6	320.6	32.0	17.6	*4.8*	*5.8*	*
October	371.9	354.2	322.2	32.0	17.7	*4.8*	*5.9*	*
November	371.9	354.4	322.4	32.0	17.5	*4.7*	*5.8*	*
December	372.4	353.8	321.8	32.0	18.6	*5.0*	*5.9*	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
1980								
January	375.7	355.8	323.8	32.0	19.9	*5.3*	*6.2*	.7
February	376.1	356.3	324.4	31.9	19.8	*5.3*	*6.2*	1.1
March	376.5	355.9	324.2	31.7	20.6	*5.8*	*6.3*	.7
April	375.2	352.2	320.7	31.5	23.0	*6.1*	*6.9*	.3
May	374.4	352.5	321.1	31.4	21.9	*5.9*	*7.6*	.2
June	376.0	353.9	322.7	31.2	22.1	*5.9*	*7.5*	.2
July	370.0	345.4	314.3	31.1	24.6	*6.7*	*7.6*	2.7
August	370.9	348.0	317.0	31.0	22.9	*6.2*	*7.6*	2.6
September	370.7	348.2	317.0	31.2	22.5	*6.1*	*7.4*	3.1
October	372.9	350.6	319.3	31.3	22.3	*6.0*	*7.6*	1.3
November	375.2	353.1	321.8	31.3	22.1	*5.9*	*7.5*	1.3
December	374.6	352.2	320.8	31.4	22.4	*6.0*	*7.4*	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	*6.0*	*7.1*	1.2
1981								
January	375.5	354.1	322.7	31.4	21.4	*5.7*	*7.4*	*
February	382.0	358.5	327.2	31.3	23.5	*6.2*	*7.3*	*1.0*
March	*384.4*	*361.7*	*330.7*	*31.0*	*22.7*	*5.9*	*7.3*	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

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[1] Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
[2] Non-additive - included in total employment.
** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table XIII

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent*[1]		
						County	State	
1979								
January	34.4	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.6	7.6	6.1	*
February	34.5	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.5	7.3	5.6	*
March	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.4	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.4	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.6	5.2	*
June	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	5.8	5.0	*
July	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	6.1	4.9	*
August	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.1	4.8	*
September	33.7	31.8	30.5	1.3	1.9	5.7	4.8	*
October	33.3	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.6	4.7	4.8	*
November	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	5.6	4.7	*
December	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	5.6	5.0	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	34.1	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.0	5.9	5.3	*
February	34.5	32.4	31.1	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.3	*
March	34.4	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.5	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.2	6.6	6.1	*
May	34.2	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.3	6.7	5.9	.2
June	33.5	31.0	29.6	1.2	2.5	7.5	5.9	.2
July	34.4	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.7	7.9	6.7	.5
August	34.3	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.6	7.4	6.2	.4
September	34.0	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.1	.4
October	34.2	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.6	7.5	6.0	*
November	34.4	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.5	7.2	5.9	*
December	34.5	32.0	30.6	1.2	2.5	7.2	6.0	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.0	.2
1981								
January	34.5	32.3	31.1	1.2	2.2	6.3	5.7	*
February	35.6	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.7	7.4	6.2	*
March	35.3	32.8	31.6	1.2	2.5	7.0	5.9	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

[1] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

[2] *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIV
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage-ment Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent 1/*		
						County	State	
1979								
January	54.7	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	6.1	*
February	54.7	52.5	51.0	1.5	2.2	4.1	5.6	*
March	54.4	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.4	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	3.9	5.4	*
May	55.2	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	3.5	5.0	*
July	55.0	53.1	51.6	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.9	*
August	55.6	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.8	*
September	55.4	53.5	52.0	1.5	1.9	3.3	4.8	*
October	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.8	*
November	55.7	53.7	52.2	1.5	2.0	3.6	4.7	*
December	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.6	5.0	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	56.3	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.2	3.9	5.3	.6
February	56.8	54.3	52.8	1.5	2.5	4.4	5.3	.7
March	56.7	54.2	52.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	5.5	.3
April	56.3	53.8	52.4	1.4	2.5	4.5	6.1	*
May	56.5	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.5	4.5	5.9	*
June	56.7	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.7	4.7	5.9	*
July	56.9	53.9	52.5	1.4	3.0	5.3	6.7	*
August	56.7	53.9	52.5	1.4	2.8	4.9	6.2	*
September	56.8	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.7	4.8	6.1	*
October	56.9	54.3	52.9	1.4	2.6	4.5	6.0	*
November	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.3	5.9	*
December	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.4	6.0	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	4.6	6.0	.1
1981								
January	57.2	54.8	53.4	1.4	2.4	4.2	5.7	*
February	58.8	55.9	54.5	1.4	2.9	4.8	6.2	*
March	59.1	56.5	55.1	1.4	2.6	4.4	5.9	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
** Under 50.*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	March 1981	Feb. 1981	March 1980	March 1981	Feb. 1981	March 1980	March 1981	Feb. 1981	March 1980
TOTAL PRIVATE	246.63	247.52	234.24	35.9	36.4	36.6	6.87	6.80	6.40
MANUFACTURING	375.58	378.29	391.30	42.2	42.6	43.0	8.90	8.88	9.10
Durable Goods	381.84	388.89	389.82	43.0	43.5	43.8	8.88	8.94	8.90
Primary Metal Industries	399.39	398.04	407.08	31.9	31.0	40.7	12.52	12.84	10.00
Nondurable Goods	363.04	357.51	357.73	40.7	40.8	41.5	8.92	8.76	8.62
Food and Kindred Products	305.30	305.77	306.90	42.3	42.5	45.4	7.22	7.18	6.76
MINING	463.97	480.31	410.62	43.0	43.0	49.0	10.79	11.17	8.38
Metal Mining	482.79	482.79	388.30	40.3	40.3	35.3	11.98	11.98	11.00
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	407.95	405.37	367.37	39.8	40.7	36.7	10.25	9.96	10.01
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	358.05	357.62	346.96	43.4	43.4	43.1	8.25	8.24	8.05
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	368.93	366.94	396.55	48.1	47.9	51.3	7.67	7.65	7.73
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	197.19	198.70	183.48	31.5	32.1	33.3	6.26	6.19	5.51
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	165.81	164.94	163.15	34.4	36.9	33.5	4.82	4.47	4.87
SERVICES	158.22	158.58	150.33	34.1	34.4	34.4	4.64	4.61	4.37

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 19[illegible], Total Private Sector series began January 1968 (May 1972 issue).

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1981	Feb. 1981	Jan. 1980	Feb. 1981
MANUFACTURING	1.1	1.6	0.6	0.5	1.4	0.4	0.6	0.1	0.1	4.0	4.5	4.9	0.9	1.4	0.6	1.5	2.5	2.3
Durable Goods	0.9	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.0	0.8	0.0	0.2	2.9	4.4	2.7	0.3	0.4	0.5	2.3	2.9	1.0
Primary Metal	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	2.5	5.4	0.0	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.8
Industries	0.3	0.3	0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.3	2.5	5.4	0.0	1.9	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.8
Nondurable Goods	1.5	3.9	1.3	1.3	3.3	1.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	5.6	4.7	10.6	1.7	2.9	1.2	0.2	1.8	5.3
MINING	3.1	8.3	7.7	2.7	8.3	6.5	0.4	0.0	0.8	11.4	5.2	11.8	3.7	5.2	6.5	4.7	0.0	0.4
Metal Mining	0.0	0.0	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

* *Less than .05.*

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggrigate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	Mar. 1981	Mar. 1980	Year to Date 1981	Year to Date 1980
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	42	23	99	101
MINING	77	20	180	75
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	51	36	142	151
MANUFACTURING	23	18	74	74
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	28	16	79	69
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	145	79	416	353
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	84	33	223	137
SERVICES	173	119	536	456
NON-PROFIT SERVICES	(36)	(39)	(129)	(105)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	4	1	22	59
STATE TOTAL	627	345	1771	1475

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS Mar. 1981	Mar. 1980	Year to Date 1981	1980
STATE OF MONTANA	627	345	1771	1475
GREAT FALLS SMSA	40	28	122	113
BILLINGS SMSA	74	52	228	215
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MULTI-COUNTY	121	26	359	110
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	38	24	98	100
Beaverhead	7	4	26	19
Deer Lodge	7	3	11	7
Granite	0	2	0	6
Madison	6	1	13	11
Powell	1	4	2	13
Silver Bow	17	10	46	44
BOZEMAN LMA	36	24	103	99
Gallatin	30	16	83	70
Meagher	1	3	1	5
Park	5	5	19	24
GLASGOW LMA	24	12	53	46
Daniels	0	0	2	2
Phillips	5	3	10	9
Roosevelt	6	4	15	14
Sheridan	8	2	15	10
Valley	5	3	11	11
GLENDIVE LMA	38	22	93	91
Dawson	12	5	34	27
Garfield	0	0	1	3
McCone	4	2	9	12
Prairie	1	1	2	5
Richland	20	14	44	43
Wibaux	1	0	3	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	6	9	32	34
Big Horn	1	2	4	10
Carbon	2	3	9	8
Stillwater	2	3	13	12
Sweet Grass	1	1	6	4

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS Mar. 1981	Mar. 1980	Year to Date 1981	1980
HAVRE LMA	20	9	59	36
Blaine	3	1	6	7
Hill	13	3	48	23
Liberty	4	5	5	6
HELENA LMA	37	20	107	93
Broadwater	1	0	2	1
Jefferson	2	0	8	6
Lewis and Clark	34	20	97	86
KALISPELL LMA	60	45	174	183
Flathead	41	31	123	121
Lake	13	7	30	33
Lincoln	6	7	21	29
LEWISTOWN LMA	10	9	28	33
Fergus	4	6	12	18
Golden Valley	0	0	0	2
Judith Basin	1	0	3	3
Musselshell	2	3	6	9
Petroleum	0	0	2	1
Wheatland	3	0	5	0
MILES CITY LMA	22	11	54	49
Carter	0	1	2	3
Custer	8	4	23	12
Fallon	4	3	7	14
Powder River	4	0	9	3
Rosebud	6	3	12	16
Treasure	0	0	1	1
MISSOULA LMA	72	39	193	199
Mineral	1	1	4	5
Missoula	49	30	124	150
Ravalli	17	6	50	31
Sanders	5	2	15	13
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	29	15	68	74
Choteau	4	3	8	14
Glacier	8	4	19	24
Pondera	1	4	9	14
Teton	2	2	7	4
Toole	14	2	25	18

Sources of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individuals's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under Montana law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

CTAS-1598 DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

MARCH 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	352	35,332.24
BIGHORN	470	50,608.77
BLAINE	341	27,245.25
BROADWATER	132	14,331.95
CARBON	356	38,908.06
CARTER	13	1,309.00
CASCADE	5,448	575,349.21
CHOUTEAU	52	5,089.00
CUSTER	502	50,626.86
DANIELS	41	4,383.00
DAWSON	192	19,627.00
DEER LODGE	2,373	283,072.85
FALLON	36	5,392.00
FERGUS	496	47,193.74
FLATHEAD	5,175	506,912.77
GALLATIN	3,031	293,016.74
GARFIELD	0	0.00
GLACIER	939	85,016.21
GOLDEN VALLEY	20	1,798.12
GRANITE	132	13,954.48
HILL	725	68,199.84
JEFFERSON	288	30,796.26
JUDITH BASIN	33	3,595.36
LAKE	1,122	102,565.25
LEWIS AND CLARK	2,573	249,120.83
LIBERTY	53	5,023.20
LINCOLN	2,652	275,787.43
MCCONE	12	950.00
MADISON	213	20,462.10
MEAGHER	113	10,023.76
MINERAL	358	37,472.80
MISSOULA	6,632	660,262.05
MUSSELSHELL	129	12,670.00
PARK	901	78,021.82
PETROLEUM	15	1,043.00
PHILLIPS	194	18,515.34
PONDERA	136	19,751.01
POWDER RIVER	27	3,028.00
POWELL	399	39,715.79
PRAIRIE	64	6,512.04
RAVALLI	1,578	152,295.96
RICHLAND	125	12,510.38
ROOSEVELT	275	26,467.28
ROSEBUD	554	59,038.88
SANDERS	937	91,635.95
SHERIDAN	39	3,843.00
SILVER BOW	2,562	264,921.14
STILLWATER	237	25,636.06
SWEET GRASS	32	9,093.00
TETON	122	12,411.00
TOOLE	187	19,415.90
TREASURE	19	2,005.00
VALLEY	500	52,361.22
WHEATLAND	36	3,293.00
WIBAUX	24	2,106.00
YELLOWSTONE	6,187	640,873.60
INTRASTATE	50,444	5,082,708.12
INTERSTATE	2,174	494,544.69
TOTAL	52,618	5,577,252.81

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CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1981 THRU MARCH 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,058	103,404.44
BIGHORN	1,501	153,675.44
BLAINE	901	81,085.22
BROADWATER	491	54,913.35
CARBON	1,073	112,704.33
CARTER	29	3,317.00
CASCADE	16,926	1,809,433.70
CHOUTEAU	198	19,262.00
CUSTER	1,725	173,955.18
DANIELS	112	12,085.00
DAWSON	567	57,399.00
DEER LODGE	7,211	849,895.60
FALLON	122	10,445.76
FERGUS	1,588	150,682.14
FLATHEAD	13,808	1,312,723.44
GALLATIN	7,295	631,005.07
GARFIELD	19	1,588.00
GLACIER	2,782	240,030.34
GOLDEN VALLEY	63	5,688.28
GRANITE	362	37,836.20
HILL	2,132	201,287.34
JEFFERSON	832	89,063.31
JUDITH BASIN	109	11,960.13
LAKE	3,451	314,233.57
LEWIS AND CLARK	7,272	710,562.87
LIBERTY	164	15,823.90
LINCOLN	5,853	566,598.31
MCCONE	48	3,847.00
MADISON	593	57,563.56
MEAGHER	383	36,684.90
MINERAL	1,164	120,727.87
MISSOULA	19,317	1,920,992.73
MUSSELSHELL	322	32,169.00
PARK	2,478	215,674.21
PETROLEUM	31	1,817.00
PHILLIPS	620	60,159.38
PONDERA	655	66,736.21
POWDER RIVER	77	8,498.00
POWELL	1,066	103,574.34
PRAIRIE	182	19,009.35
RAVALLI	4,491	427,041.87
RICHLAND	372	34,483.62
ROOSEVELT	942	95,753.00
ROSEBUD	1,893	209,364.29
SANDERS	2,641	256,056.60
SHERIDAN	120	11,138.00
SILVER BOW	7,744	797,141.55
STILLWATER	711	77,699.06
SWEET GRASS	328	34,759.00
TETON	505	51,505.00
TOOLE	511	53,478.58
TREASURE	59	6,106.00
VALLEY	1,464	150,438.20
WHEATLAND	104	9,985.00
WIBAUX	75	7,244.00
YELLOWSTONE	17,496	1,825,064.35
INTRASTATE	144,036	14,470,565.53
INTERSTATE	5,917	973,967.18
TOTAL	149,953	15,444,532.71

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SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1981	1980	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims1/	14,443	17,406	-2,963	-17.0
Continued Claims1/	169,897	179,133	-9,236	- 5.2
Number of Benefit Payments1/	149,953	150,241	-288	- 1.9
Amount of Benefits Paid1/	$15,444,533	$13,847,617	$1,596,916	11.5
Average Weekly Benefit Amount1/2/	$110.69	$96.33	$14.36	14.9

MONTHLY

	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Change From Year Ago Net	Change From Year Ago Percent
Initial Claims1/	3,756	4,057	3,918	-162	-4.1
Continued Claims1/	59,290	54,654	53,333	5,957	11.2
Number of Benefit Payments1/	52,618	48,166	50,078	2,540	5.1
Amount of Benefits Paid1/	$5,577,253	$4,865,956	$4,650,081	$927,172	19.9
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt1/2/	$114.26	$108.18	$97.28	$16.98	17.5
Trust Fund Balance	$11,080,371	$16,028,841	$10,506,757*	$573,614	5.5

1/ *Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.*
2/ *Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".*
* *Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $7,084,089.*

The number of initial claims filed in March, 3,756, dropped slightly from last year's 3,918 and last month's 4,057. Continued claims count, however, rose to 59,290 from 53,333 in March, 1980 and 54,654 in February, a change of 11.2% and 8.5% respectively.

Both number and amount of benefits paid gained this March. There were 52,618 payments made compared with 48,166 last month and 50,078 last year. The maximum benefits amount increases each year which raises the monthly payments, but this month the $5,557,253 paid was higher than preceding amounts, even allowing for the annual advance. Payments were $4,865,956 for February and $4,650,081 for March, 1980.

Average Weekly Benefit Amount of $114.26 for March exceeds the $108.18 in February by $6.08 and the $97.28 for last March by $16.98. This high figure for the month would indicate that many claimants are receiving the maximum benefit. Year-to-date claims and number of payments are all less than the same three months of 1980, but amount of benefits and the average benefit so far in 1981 are greater than a year ago.

The third month of the first quarter is normally the lowest Trust Fund Balance for the year, due to larger benfit payments and smaller contributions. The March balance of $11,080,371, which is almost $5 million less than the $16,028,841 in February, but over $.5 million more than the $10,506,757 in March, 1980, is probably low for this year and the fund should start to build up if the economy improves as anticipated.

S 4710-1 UB
6/26/81

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MAY - 1981

JOB SERVICE

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P.O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

LOCAL OFFICE LISTING

ANACONDA
307 E. Park
Anaconda, MT 59711
(563-3444)
(563-3445)

BILLINGS EAST
624 N. 24th St.
Billings, MT 59101
(248-7371)

BILLINGS PROGRAM OFFICE
1425 Broadwater Ave.
Suite E
Billings, MT 59102
(259-5529)

BILLINGS WEST
445 S. 24th St. W.
Billings, MT 59102
(652-2920)

BOZEMAN
220 W. Lamme
Bozeman, MT 59715
(586-5455)

BUTTE
206 W. Granite
Butte, MT 59701
(792-0417)

BUTTE PROGRAM OFFICE
Idaho & Mercury Sts.
Butte, MT 59701
(792-9115)

CUT BANK
513 E. Main
Cut Bank, MT 59427
(873-2191)

WIN CENTER
P.O. Box 837
Browning, MT 59417
(338-7551)

DILLON
126 S. Montana St.
Dillon, MT 59725
(683-5501)

GLASGOW
238 2nd Ave. S.
Glasgow, MT 59230
(228-9369)

WIN CENTER
Glasgow AFB
Box 4696
Glasgow, MT 59231
(524-7371)

GLENDIVE
211 S. Kendrick
Glendive, MT 59330
(365-3314)

GREAT FALLS
1018 7th St. S.
Great Falls, MT 59405
(761-1730)

GREAT FALLS PROGRAM OFFICE
1018 7th St. S.
Great Falls, MT 59405
(761-1730)

HAMILTON
333 Main Street
P.O. Box 73
Hamilton, MT 59840
(363-1822)
(363-1824)

HAVRE
416 1st St.
Havre, MT 59501
(265-5847)

HELENA
715 Front Street
Helena, MT 59601
(449-3044)

HELENA PROGRAM OFFICE
529 N. Warren
Helena, MT 59601
(442-2531)

KALISPELL
427 1st Ave. E.
Kalispell, MT 59901
(755-5071)

KALISPELL PROGRAM OFFICE
37 1st Street W.
Kalispell, MT 59901
(755-5020)

LEWISTOWN
324 W. Broadway
Lewistown, MT 59457
(538-8701)

LIBBY
314 S. Calfiornia
Libby, MT 59923
(293-6282)

LIVINGSTON
228 S. Main
P.O. Box 1199
Livingston, MT 59047
(222-0520)

MILES CITY
12 N. 10th
Miles City, MT 59301
(232-1316)

MISSOULA
539 S. 3rd St. W.
P.O. Box 5027
Missoula, MT 59806
(728-7060)

MISSOULA PROGRAM OFFICE
600 Kensington
P.O. Box 4986
Missoula, MT 59801
(721-5680)

POLSON
417 Main Street
P.O. Box 970
Polson, MT 59860
(883-5261)
(883-5262)

SHELBY
402 1st Street S.
Shelby, MT 59474
(434-5161)

SIDNEY
120 S. Central
Sidney, MT 59270
(482-1204)

THOMPSON FALLS
608 Main Street
Thompson Falls, MT 59873
(827-3472)

WOLF POINT
122 Second Ave. S.
Wolf Point, MT 59201
(653-1720)

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

May 1981

STATE OF MONTANA
TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID L. HUNTER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
FRED BARRETT, ADMINISTRATOR

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For more information contact:
Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis Section
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601
(406) 449-2430

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics X-11 variant of the Census Method II seasonal adjustment program.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six economic indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

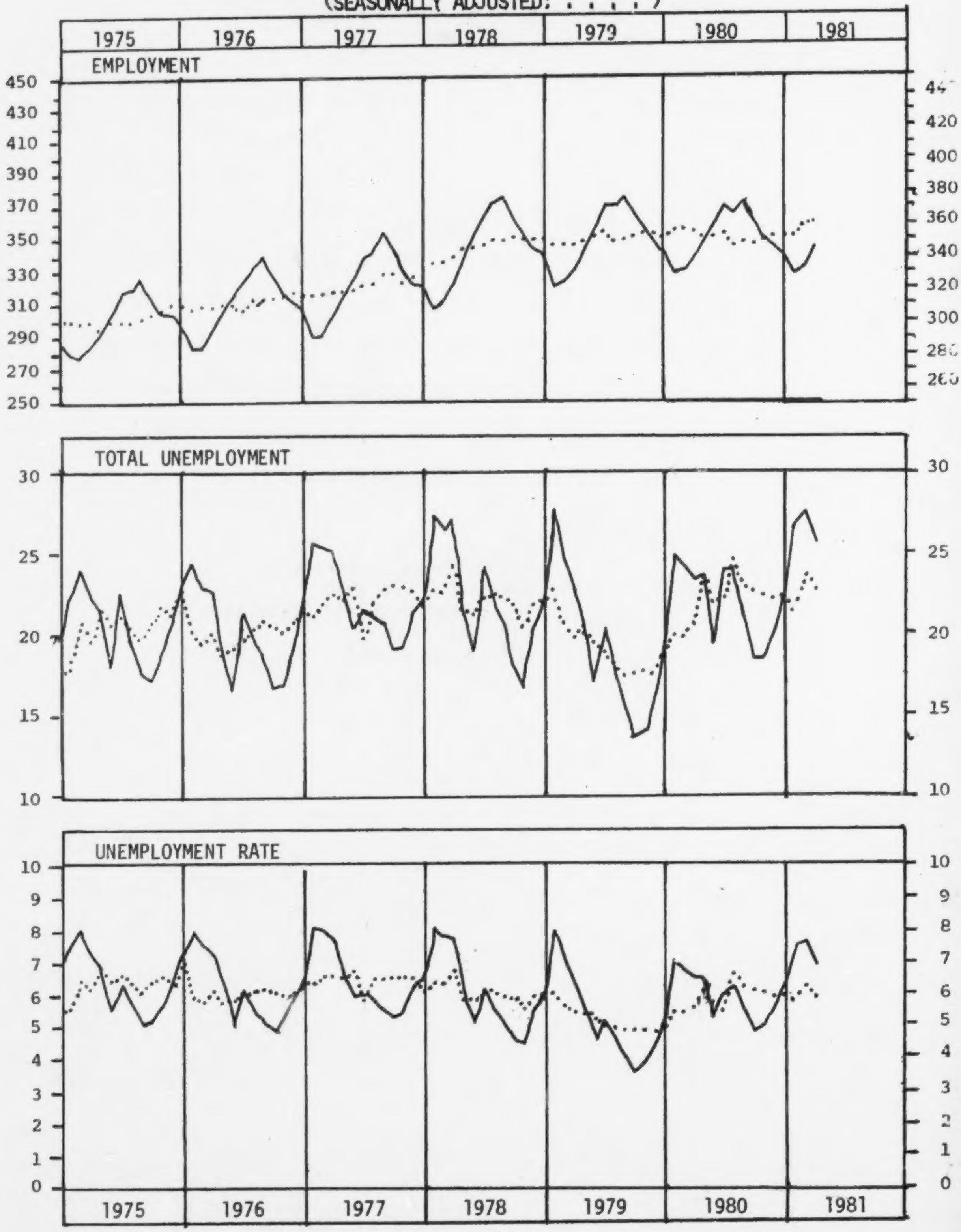
12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ______)
(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: . . . . .)



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601

STATEWIDE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	382.7	371.3	370.7	11.4	12.0
Employment	359.2	345.7	347.2	13.5	12.0
Unemployment	23.5	25.6	23.5	-2.1	0
Unemployment Rate	*6.1*	*6.9*	*6.4*	*-.8*	*-.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Farmers and ranchers became more optomistic about their crops this month as much needed precipitation fell over most of the state. Drought conditions that had caused short stockwater supplies, limited growth of range grasses and potential crop failure have been somewhat alleviated. While relieving the drought conditions in the east, the heavy amounts of rain and snow have created floods in the west and several counties have been declared disaster areas.

Bids on 2,188 acres of leases for oil and gas exploration were opened the first week of May by the Bureau of Land Management. The total bid for the acreage was $952,556 making the average bid of $435.26 per acre. Most of the parcels in the lease sale were in the Northern Powder River Basin and the Miles City arch. The parcel that brought the highest bid was in Teton County's Blackleaf Canyon field. Bentonite, a water absorbent clay, has the potential to become as great an issue for Montana as coal. Bentonite has many uses but 70% is used in oil and gas exploration. Much of the remaining bentonite in the world is in the State.

Construction work is showing a seasonal increase in employment. Work has begun on about $145.7 million of major road construction contracts according to the state Highway Department. A major utility company has allocated $248 million for capitol expenditures. This is the largest construction budget in the history of the company. Residential construction is also increasing although high interest rates are still delaying many projects, and preliminary estimates show a decline in the April employment in lumber and wood products manufacturing. These fluctuations in employment are probably seasonal in nature.

As the tourist season begins, increases in employment have been noted in the retail trade industry, especially in eating and drinking places.

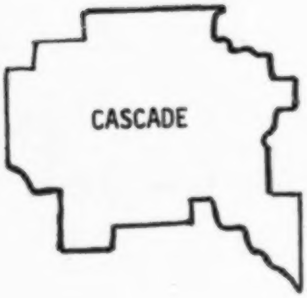
The outlook for tourism, however, is dampened somewhat due to the high gasoline prices and inflation. The trend of people to drive less, stay in one place longer and use mass transportation where possible and economically feasible poses particular problems for Montana which is far removed from major national population centers.

Reduced federal spending has resulted in cutbacks in CETA Public Service Employment. There are, however, a number of other programs that still exist to help economically disadvantaged people. An estimated 1,500 Montana youth will be put to work in a variety of jobs this summer under the U. S. Labor Department's Summer Youth Employment Program.

GREAT FALLS SMSA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	35.5	34.7	33.5	.8	2.0
Employment	32.9	32.1	31.4	.8	1.5
Unemployment	2.6	2.6	2.1	0	.5
Unemployment Rate	*7.3*	*7.6*	*6.3*	*-.3*	*1.0*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Construction work is increasing in the area. Fifty-nine building permits were issued in April, ten more than the same month last year. Two residential permits had the highest value. These were for four duplexes--eight units--with a total value of $281,440. A construction permit for a new business valued at $159,340 was also issued. These helped boost the total value of building permits issued for the month to $1.6 million--the most since last August. Four of the top ten road contractors this year are Great Falls firms. They have jobs currently underway that represent a total of $62.3 million in contracts.

Manufacturing employment is remaining fairly stable with possibilities of improving. A manufacturer of solar energy devices has returned to a full work force after about a one month closure in February and March. The lay off came about when an independent dealer cut back orders creating a surplus at the plant. The same firm has developed a new product which could create a need to add to the current production force of 40 to 45 people. Talks are continuing with two firms that have shown interest in the copper refinery in the area. One company has inspected the plant and is in the process of making a proposal to the current owner. The second company plans on touring the plant this month.

The Great Falls Urban Transit district had their application for $23,500 approved by the City-County planning board. The money will be used to perform two studies of the city's bus system. Bids received by the transit system from bus manufacturing will allow Great Falls to get 15 buses at a cost of about $1.3 to $1.4 million dollars. The new buses could be delivered early next year.

Great Falls is faced with expenditures that are increasing faster than revenues. In order to live within the budget, plans are underway to decrease the number of city employees. Currently, there are 370 permanent positions and by modifying some of the operations, the total number of positions could be less. It is projected that attrition rather than layoffs will reduce the work force.

BILLINGS SMSA

YELLOWSTONE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	58.2	57.6	55.5	.6	2.7
Employment	55.6	54.6	53.0	1.0	2.6
Unemployment	2.6	3.0	2.5	-.4	.1
Unemployment Rate	*4.4*	*5.2*	*4.4*	*-.8*	---

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Billings SMSA reported mixed movement with a few businesses closing and some new construction and new business coming in at the same time. Although building permits dropped during April compared to April, 1980 by 42%, the year-to-date total was a 4% increase over last year.

Some new businesses include a golf course in Huntley and an ice cream store in Billings. The new golf course will be hiring between 18 and 20 persons to help with the restaurant and to fill maintenance crews. The ice cream store will employ the two owners and two part-time helpers.

A cleaners that burned down a few months ago is reopening. They will hire back about 10 employees that were laid off as a result of the fire.

A hospital in Billings announced plans to construct a Regional Cardiac Diagnostic and Treatment Center. The completion date is expected to be in August, 1982. Also in Billings will be a $2.6 million Child Psychiatric Center. The Center will employ approximately 100 persons with annual payrolls of $2 million. A targeted completion date is the summer of 1984.

A hamburger restaurant is closing which will leave ten persons out of work. The building has been sold to a group of doctors who will remodel the building and use it as offices. Also going out of business is a mortgage company and a department store's truck and tire outlet. These both affected a total of twelve persons but five of these may be absorbed by the main department store. There were eight more persons left without work when a trophy business in Billings laid them off due to a slowdown in business. With seasonal jobs beginning to open up, maybe these persons left without work will soon be employed again.

ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA

POWELL
GRANITE
DEER LODGE
SILVER BOW
BEAVERHEAD
MADISON

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	35.3	34.6	34.2	.7	1.1
Employment	32.7	31.9	32.1	.8	.6
Unemployment	2.6	2.7	2.1	-.1	-.5
Unemployment Rate	7.5	7.7	6.0	-.2	-1.5

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

There are a number of new businesses and workers called back in the Anaconda-Butte LMA during this reporting period. Along with new seasonal employment, some layoffs are reported.

Among the new businesses is a dairy distribution plant out of Helena. This may employ up to ten persons. Also in Butte is a new ladies apparel shop, a trophy and sportswear store, and a Greek restaurant specializing in sandwiches, fast food and carry-outs.

In Dillon, work has started on the clearing of ground for a new 42-unit low income apartment complex. Four laborers are working at the present time.

Beaverhead County has agreed to sponsor bonds to be used in building a pellet plant which will eventually employ five persons in addition to the regular work force.

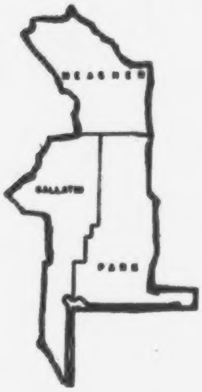
Agricultural activity consists of feeding, calving, lambing and field work.

In the Dillon area, there will be 12 crew members and three supervisors working on the extermination of rodents. Employment activity also consists of the forest service rehiring its seasonal workers and a Dillon sawmill recalling 15 workers which were laid off in February.

BOZEMAN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	26.7	25.9	26.5	.8	.2
Employment	25.1	24.3	24.8	.8	.3
Unemployment	1.6	1.6	1.7	0	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*5.8*	*6.2*	*6.3*	*-.4*	*-.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A survey sponsored by several environmental and conservation groups indicated that 96 percent of Gallatin County citizens want more wilderness. Also, 94 percent of the 304 persons sampled said they utilize the national forest. Promoters of the survey were pleased by the wilderness survey results that were sampled to a 95 percent confidence level.

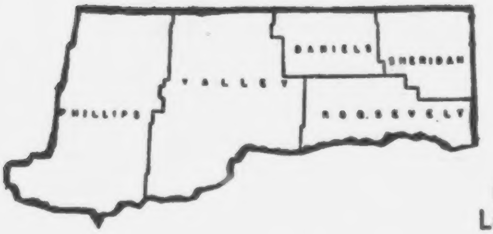
With the skiing season completed, local ski resorts reported their attendance to be between 20 and 25 percent less than last year. To eliminate the shortage of snow, one of the ski resorts plans to install snow-making equipment this summer. Some of the slopes would be open about Thanksgiving with the aid of man-made snow.

The city of Livingston received a $222,000 state grant for their "wind farm". This is the largest alternative energy grant given by the state and will pay for constructing and monitoring four 25 kilowatt wind electric generators. This type of alternative energy is the first known to be used by a municipal government in the United States. A sewage treatment plant will utilize the electrical power.

Gold mining will turn to gold flying this summer in the Big Timber Canyon. Helicopters will be used to extract about 30,000 tons of ore at a cost of about $3.5 million, using 6 helicopters and 25 employees. Preliminary reports indicate that the ore contains 2 ounces of gold per ton.

National Park Service workers started working again in early May, which is one month later than usual. The service and trade industries are starting to expand their staffs for the tourism activities.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	18.1	17.0	17.0	1.1	1.1
Employment	17.4	16.4	16.1	1.3	1.0
Unemployment	.7	.9	.6	-.2	.1
Unemployment Rate	*3.9*	*5.1*	*3.3*	*-1.3*	*.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

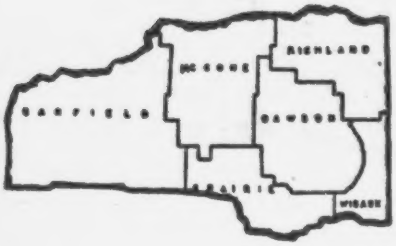
A surge in economic activity in the Glasgow area is now underway as work on a natural gas pipeline begins. The local Job Service office reports hundreds of calls each week from persons interested in pipeline employment. However, nearly all of the workers doing actual pipeline work will be employed by sub-contractors who will be recruiting from the respective craft unions. Local hiring among retail and service establishments continued to increase as a result of the pipeline activity and the return of aircraft testing personnel to the area. Numerous short-term and temporary jobs were reported, but available housing for persons coming into the area is in short supply.

Construction activity continued at a healthy pace; though there isn't much new housing construction at this time, there is a normal amount of remodeling and repair work. Cement work was started on a new 45-unit tribal housing project employing 20 workers; masonry work started on a juvenile detention center, and a new 42-unit motel is nearing completion. In highway construction, crews for the county and the BIA were called back to work. A crew of 100 railroad workers moved into Poplar for line construction.

Oil exploration activity slumped as one seismograph crew moved to Wyoming and another took a two-week break. Drilling continued at a good pace, but few hires were reported. Activity in agriculture increased as farmers recruited workers for seeding and irrigation work.

An area training center finally closed its doors after months of phasing out education and employment training programs. Before cutbacks began, the center served 115 families from a six-state area and had a staff of 70.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	16.7	15.8	15.6	.9	1.1
Employment	16.3	15.4	15.2	.9	1.1
Unemployment	.4	.4	.4	---	---
Unemployment Rate	*2.4*	*2.7*	*2.6*	*-.3*	*-.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Problems still exist with a shopping center project in Glendive. Construction was originally planned to be underway by now, but construction could be delayed until next spring. Developers are confident that a shopping center will eventually be built, though. Construction of a new racquetball facility ended and the owners report an excellent interest in membership by the community. Two different motel chains are seeking approval for industrial revenue bonds to finance new facilities--one in Glendive and one in Sidney. Construction activity in Sidney is brisk, with three projects underway: a new hardware store, a new appliance store, and a new church. Several remodeling projects are also underway, and a 100-unit motel is being planned.

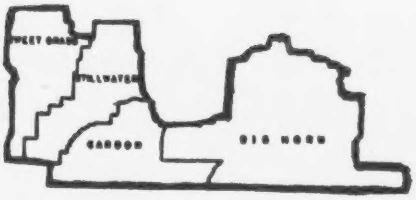
Oilfield activity was steady and shortages of experienced over work rig drillers were reported. A new company specializing in well completion work has moved into Sidney. Twenty-six workers were laid off from a railroad carshop and roundhouse, but many were able to pick up work on a new summer crew of twenty-one workers doing section work.

In agriculture, many fields were reported to be very dry, however, most small grains are up. Some irrigation work started and hiring should pick up pace in the next few weeks.

HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	14.0	13.3	13.8	.7	.2
Employment	13.4	12.6	13.2	.8	.2
Unemployment	.6	.7	.6	-.1	0
Unemployment Rate	4.3	5.4	4.7	-1.1	-.4

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The crop outlook for the area was bad at the beginning of the month. Winter wheat, sugar beets and range grass all needed moisture. Most farmers were irrigating already, the creeks were very low and city watering was restricted. The long awaited moisture came in significant amounts of rain and snow in the second week of May and could be worth a million dollars for agriculture production in the area.

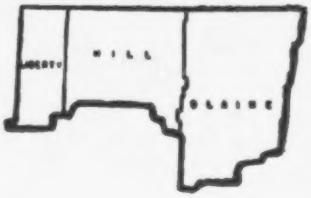
Oil and gas exploration has produced some results. A special hydraulics lift-type pump is being used to bring heavy oil out of the ground. Two of three wells in the Mackay and Dean Dome fields are averaging 80 to 90 barrels a day. The third well should begin producing soon. More drilling is being planned for the area. A wildcat driller has struck oil in Golden Vally County just over the Sweet Grass County line. The find is exciting people in the Big Timber area but it is not a proven oil field yet. It does mean more exploration will go on in the area.

Construction work is beginning to pick up. The highway department has been asked to proceed with planning for a Busby to Decker highway so that construction will be ready to go when funding is found. It is felt that about $8 million should be available for the project from the Montana Coal Board as part of Big Horn County's share of the Coal Severance Tax. The City of Hardin approved a SID that will mean curb, gutter, paving and drainage will be done in the town this year. Replanting of an area of Hardin was requested by a firm wanting to construct a $710,000 apartment complex. The 24 units will qualify for rent subsidy and should be ready for occupancy in September.

HAVRE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	13.4	12.8	13.0	.6	.4
Employment	12.7	12.0	12.3	.7	.4
Unemployment	.7	.8	.7	.1	---
Unemployment Rate	5.1	5.9	5.6	-.8	-.5

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Market conditions which resulted in a surplus of tractors at an area manufacturing plant forced the firm to lay off nearly one-third of its workforce. Sixty-three workers are expected to be off the production line for 4-8 weeks, depending on market conditions. The long-term outlook for the firm is a little better though, since they are in the planning stages of an eventual two-year expansion program.

Layoffs of railroad employees were also reported. Only 25 men--of over 1,000 railroad workers in the area--were laid off in the past few weeks, but rumors are that severe cutbacks may be coming in the near future. Layoffs of workers in occupations funded by CETA monies continued, also.

Activity in construction continued at a pretty good pace with three large commercial projects in various stages of completion. A new bank building is nearly complete; foundation block work began on a new grocery store; and excavation work finished at another new grocery store site. Construction of a new restaurant facility should begin in early June, and plans were announced by a drugstore to do extensive remodeling of their building this summer. About $2 million will be spent in Chinook for a street improvement project if the City Council accepts bids for the project.

HELENA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	29.1	28.4	28.3	.7	.8
Employment	27.8	27.0	26.9	.8	.9
Unemployment	1.3	1.4	1.4	-.1	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*4.5*	*5.1*	*5.1*	*-.6*	*-.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Farmers and ranchers are becoming more optimistic about their potential crop production this year. The recent precipitation will provide good grass growth on the ranges and excellent conditions for the grain crops. Spring planting and other agriculture work is continuing as weather permits.

Construction work is providing a seasonal boost to employment opportunities. The sale of $3.5 million in industrial bonds for expansion of a downtown hotel has been approved by the City Commission. The State's long range building program includes two major projects in Helena. Four million dollars is to be provided for the building of a new Workers Compensation Division office and $6.8 million will be allowed for renovation of the State Capitol.

The total number of state and federal employees in the Helena area is diminishing as a result of government budget cuts. The local Job Service office reports that many of the layoffs are occurring in upper management positions while there are some openings for non-management people. The impact of reduced government employment will probably be felt soon in the retail and service industry in Helena.

Layoffs and transfers are occurring in the private sector also. A major utility is consolidating their facilities and transferring some of their people out of town. Nine people were laid off as a result of two businesses closing the end of April.

Contract negotiations are occurring in several places. A strike of state employees was averted as the legislature, in its final days, assured employees that they would honor previous agreements. Lewis and Clark County has begun negotiating with two of the four unions that represent about 150 county employees. The auto dealers and the independent auto body shops are having a labor dispute with the machinist union.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	37.7	37.1	38.1	.6	-.4
Employment	33.6	32.6	33.3	1.0	.3
Unemployment	4.1	4.5	4.8	-.4	-.7
Unemployment Rate	*10.8*	*12.1*	*12.6*	*-1.3*	*-1.8*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Kalispell LMA reports some positive movement during this reporting period. A highlight includes a grant by the Department of Natural Resources which is waiting for approval. The grant would give an energy company out of Missoula approval to start preliminary work on a wood pellet plant in Eureka.

Groundbreaking ceremonies were held for a new $1.3 million building to be built next to the tribal complex in Pablo. The building will house the BIA agency which will move from its present location in Ronan. A completion date is set for May, 1982.

The retail sector appears to be the most optimistic in the Kalispell area, while their business depends largely on tourism trade.

Agriculture is picking up some with Christmas tree plantations hiring tree planters. Seed potato sorting and shipping also continues.

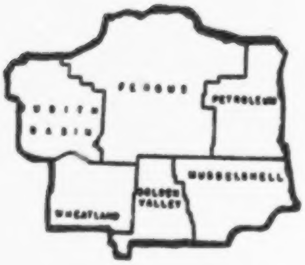
In the lumber and wood products industry, some loggers have returned to the forest as spring breakup comes to an end. A lumber mill in Libby has started to hire some workers back.

Some unemployment has resulted from a phone company transferring its repair and service section to Sandpoint, Idaho. A brief labor dispute halted work at a mine near Troy, but for the most part, employment is beginning to pick up with seasonal work starting.

LEWISTOWN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

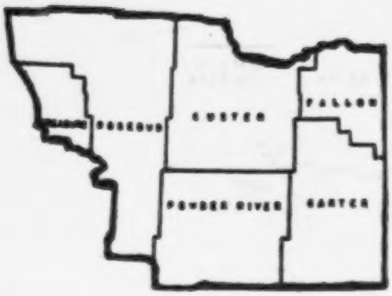


				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	10.9	10.3	11.0	.6	-.1
Employment	10.6	9.8	10.4	.8	.2
Unemployment	.3	.5	.6	-.2	-.3
Unemployment Rate	3.3	4.7	5.1	1.4	1.8

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activity in the construction and agriculture industries increased through the period. In construction, warming weather allowed work to continue on several projects begun earlier in the year. No new projects were announced this month in Lewistown, but in Roundup work should begin soon on a new $263,000 golf course project. In agriculture, spring work is now in full swing and recent precipitation is welcome by the farmers. Dry conditions in the fields depressed the demand for ag-workers early in the period, but hiring should pick up now.

Workers in the retail and service industries have been in demand. Cooks, waitresses and maids were recruited as the convention business picked up; and clerks and stockers were needed as retail trade activity increased slightly.



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	17.4	16.7	16.3	.7	1.1
Employment	16.8	15.9	15.6	.9	1.2
Unemployment	.6	.8	.7	-.2	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*3.8*	*4.7*	*4.1*	*-.9*	*-.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

A surge of water news splashes the area, with heavy rains being the best news. A legislative bill authorizing $10 million worth of bonds backed by the principle of the coal severance tax trust for rehabilitation of the Tongue River Dam has been approved by the Governor. Also involved would be an emergency warning and downstream evacuation system for residents living below the dam. The Northern Cheyenne tribe and federal government's assistance will be sought in joint management and financing of the rebuilt dam and enlarged reservoir. A preliminary decree, setting forth water rights in the Powder River Basin, was signed early in May. Thus far, this area is the only Montana river basin where all water rights have been adjudicated. The statewide water rights recording process was initiated by the 1973 legislature.

Studies of soil samples continue for usage in determining the affect coal development will have on agriculture productivity in the lower Tongue River Basin. The pesticide used for controlling the higher than normal population of cut worms has been determined harmful to wildlife. A substitute pesticide that does not contain endrin and toxaphene chemicals has been approved for further control of the cut worm.

The Forsyth City Council has approved $450 million in revenue bonds to be used for pollution control facilities at the Colstrip 3 and 4 power plants. Support hiring can be noted in the trade and service industries in conjunction to the electric generator expansion occuring in Colstrip. April's thirty-five building permits in Miles City were nearly all existing residential improvements. Commercial development permit value was less than $5,000, which indicates the effects of high interest rates and economic uncertainty.

The railway line between Miles City and Ortonville, Minnesota has another threat to close by the railroad company. They have filed an application for abondonment with federal officials since the attempts to fund a $ 49 million rehabilitation of the tracks has thus far failed.

MISSOULA LMA

SANDERS
MINERAL
MISSOULA
RAVALLI

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	50.9	49.9	50.0	1.0	.9
Employment	46.5	45.2	45.5	1.3	1.0
Unemployment	4.4	4.7	4.5	-.3	-.1
Unemployment Rate	8.6	9.4	9.1	-.8	-.5

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Some commercial development is progressing, but the slow economy still prevails for the most part. The design concept of a Missoula hotel was approved by city officials. The $12.4 million, 200 room hotel and restaurant will now seek financing via industrial revenue bonds. The proposed $20 million downtown plaza had a set back. An architectural firm that was considered a main backer of downtown plaza development was not awarded the first phase parking garage design contract. Also downtown, a men's clothing store that was established 63 years ago plans to quit business in May. The main reasons given for the closure include a shift of the city's trade center to the mall and a recessionary economy.

The Missoula City Council annexed into the city a small parcel of land next to a mall to accommodate planned mall expansion. A plastic manufacturer in Hamilton that was recently awarded a military helmet contract, plans to move to Anaconda. Anaconda's Task Force's low interest $900,000 loan guarantee was the major factor in the moving decision.

A labor dispute between 260 Missoula high school and vo-tech teachers and the school administrators started May 11, 1981. About 4,000 students were affected by the strike and a state mediator has been assigned to the labor dispute. Teachers salaries for the 1980-81 school year are at issue, as are salaries and contract language for the 1981-82 school year.

Wilderness advocates are pleased at recent government decisions not to escalate the Bob Marshall Wilderness area into oil and gas exploration. First, the Forest Service disallowed a geophysics firm from doing explosive seismic testing in the Bob Marshall Wilderness. Also, the House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs decided to prevent oil and gas leasing in the Bob Marshall, Great Bear and Scapegoat Wilderness from occurring. Nearly 350 leases have been applied for in the three wildernesses. Appeals of these decisions are pending.

SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA

GLACIER
TOOLE
PONDERA
TETON
CHOUTEAU

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1980
Civilian Labor Force	18.8	17.2	18.0	1.6	.8
Employment	17.9	16.2	17.1	1.7	.8
Unemployment	.9	1.0	.9	-.1	---
Unemployment Rate	*4.8*	*6.0*	*5.2*	*-1.2*	*-.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The Shelby-Cut Bank area reports very little new activity during May. A feasibility study is being conducted by the merchants in Shelby. In Cut Bank, the construction of two new bank buildings is progressing rapidly. Retail trades and the oilfields show the most hiring activity in the Cut Bank area. Drilling rigs and seismic crews continue to move into the East Glacier--Browning area. Agricultural activity is reported as being very slow during this reporting period.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Insured Unemployment*		
	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Non-White	*16.0%*	*15.8%*	*12.3%*
Female	*19.3%*	*18.7%*	*18.0%*
Youth	*5.1%*	*4.9%*	*6.0%*
Over 45	*22.2%*	*22.0%*	*20.8%*

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. 1/

All Items

(1967 = 100)

	1979		1980		1981	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	204.7	204.7	233.2	233.3	260.5	260.7
February	207.1	207.1	236.4	236.5	263.2	263.5
March	209.1	209.3	239.8	239.9	265.1	265.2
April	211.5	211.8	242.5	242.6	266.8	266.8
May	214.1	214.3	244.9	245.1		
June	216.6	216.9	247.6	247.8		
July	218.9	219.4	247.8	248.0		
August	221.1	221.5	249.4	249.6		
September	223.4	223.7	251.7	251.9		
October	225.4	225.6	253.9	254.1		
November	227.5	227.6	256.2	256.4		
December	229.9	230.0	258.4	258.7		
AVERAGE	217.4	217.7	246.8	247.0		

1/ *The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.*

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

Table I

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/		
						Montana	U. S.	
1979								
January	348.7	321.0	299.5	21.3	27.7	7.9	6.4	*
February	349.2	324.6	301.4	23.2	24.6	7.1	6.4	1.1
March	353.7	331.1	303.3	27.8	22.6	6.4	6.1	*
April	364.2	343.8	309.6	34.2	20.4	5.6	5.5	*
May	373.0	356.0	320.7	35.3	17.0	4.6	5.2	.1
June	391.6	371.2	331.0	40.2	20.4	5.2	6.0	.1
July	388.5	370.9	327.9	43.0	17.6	4.5	5.8	*
August	391.1	375.4	329.4	46.0	15.7	4.0	5.9	.1
September	381.0	367.4	331.5	35.9	13.6	3.6	5.6	*
October	371.1	357.2	326.7	30.5	13.0	3.8	5.6	*
November	365.3	349.7	323.5	26.2	15.6	4.3	5.6	*
December	362.6	343.8	321.2	22.6	18.8	5.2	5.6	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.1
1980								
January	354.8	329.9	309.1	20.8	24.9	7.0	6.8	.7
February	356.4	332.6	310.0	22.6	23.8	6.7	6.8	1.1
March	363.0	339.6	312.4	27.2	23.4	6.5	6.6	.7
April	370.7	347.2	313.8	33.4	23.5	6.4	6.6	.3
May	377.1	357.6	323.2	34.4	19.5	5.2	7.0	.2
June	394.7	370.9	331.7	39.2	23.8	6.0	7.8	.2
July	390.4	366.3	324.3	42.0	24.1	6.2	7.9	2.7
August	393.8	372.7	327.8	44.9	21.1	5.4	7.5	2.6
September	381.5	363.0	328.0	35.0	18.5	4.8	7.1	3.1
October	372.2	353.7	323.9	29.8	18.4	5.0	7.1	1.3
November	368.4	348.3	322.7	25.6	20.1	5.5	7.1	1.3
December	364.7	342.1	320.1	22.0	22.6	6.2	6.9	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	6.0	7.1	1.2
1981								
January	354.6	328.1	307.3	20.8	26.5	7.5	8.2	*
February	362.4	334.9	312.8	22.1	27.5	7.6	8.0	1.0
March	371.3	345.7	319.2	26.5	25.6	6.9	7.7	*
April	382.7	359.2	326.6	32.6	23.5	6.1	7.0	*
May	*388.7*	*367.9*	*334.3*	*33.6*	*20.8*	*5.3*		*.4*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
** Under 50. Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

Table II

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent 1/*		
						County	State	
1979								
January	33.3	30.2	29.4	.8	3.1	*9.4*	*7.9*	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	*8.3*	*7.1*	*
March	33.5	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.5	*7.5*	*6.4*	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.2	*6.5*	*5.6*	*
May	34.4	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.9	*5.5*	*4.6*	*
June	35.1	32.9	31.3	1.6	2.2	*6.2*	*5.2*	*
July	35.0	32.9	31.2	1.7	2.1	*6.0*	*4.5*	*
August	35.0	33.1	31.3	1.8	1.9	*5.5*	*4.0*	*
September	34.5	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.7	*4.8*	*3.6*	*
October	33.3	31.9	30.7	1.2	1.4	*4.1*	*3.8*	*
November	33.2	31.4	30.4	1.0	1.8	*5.4*	*4.3*	*
December	32.9	31.0	30.1	.9	1.9	*5.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	33.0	30.5	29.7	.8	2.5	*7.7*	*7.0*	*
February	33.0	30.7	29.8	.9	2.3	*7.0*	*6.7*	*
March	33.7	31.5	30.4	1.1	2.2	*6.6*	*6.5*	*
April	33.5	31.4	30.1	1.3	2.1	*6.3*	*6.4*	*
May	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	*5.6*	*5.2*	.2
June	34.8	32.1	30.5	1.6	2.7	*7.7*	*6.0*	.2
July	35.3	32.6	30.9	1.7	2.7	*7.8*	*6.2*	.5
August	35.5	33.1	31.3	1.8	2.4	*6.8*	*5.4*	.4
September	34.8	32.7	31.5	1.2	2.1	*6.0*	*4.8*	.4
October	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.2	2.3	*6.9*	*5.0*	*
November	34.1	31.7	30.7	1.0	2.4	*7.0*	*5.5*	*
December	34.0	31.5	30.5	1.0	2.5	*7.3*	*6.2*	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.0*	.2
1981								
January	33.5	30.8	30.0	.8	2.7	*8.1*	*7.5*	*
February	34.2	31.3	30.4	.9	2.9	*8.5*	*7.6*	*
March	34.7	32.1	31.1	1.0	2.6	*7.6*	*6.9*	*
April	35.5	32.9	31.6	1.3	2.6	*7.3*	*6.1*	*
May	*34.9*	*32.7*	*31.4*	*1.3*	*2.2*	*6.4*	*5.3*	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table III
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent*[1]		
						County	State	
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	*6.0*	*7.9*	*
February	53.0	50.3	49.2	1.1	2.7	*5.1*	*7.1*	*
March	53.0	50.6	49.3	1.3	2.4	*4.5*	*6.4*	*
April	54.2	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.1	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	*3.1*	*4.6*	*
June	57.2	55.0	53.2	1.8	2.2	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
July	56.0	54.2	52.2	2.0	1.8	*3.2*	*4.5*	*
August	57.0	55.3	53.2	2.1	1.7	*3.0*	*4.0*	*
September	56.3	54.8	53.2	1.6	1.5	*2.6*	*3.6*	*
October	55.7	54.2	52.8	1.4	1.5	*2.6*	*3.8*	*
November	55.7	54.0	52.8	1.2	1.7	*3.1*	*4.3*	*
December	55.3	53.3	52.3	1.0	2.0	*3.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	*3.7*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	54.9	52.0	51.0	1.0	2.9	*5.3*	*7.0*	.6
February	55.1	52.2	51.2	1.0	2.9	*5.3*	*6.7*	.7
March	55.4	52.5	51.3	1.2	2.9	*5.3*	*6.5*	.3
April	55.5	53.0	51.5	1.5	2.5	*4.4*	*6.4*	*
May	56.1	54.0	52.4	1.6	2.1	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
June	58.5	55.6	53.8	1.8	2.9	*5.0*	*6.0*	*
July	57.8	54.9	53.0	1.9	2.9	*5.0*	*6.2*	*
August	58.2	55.6	53.5	2.1	2.6	*4.5*	*5.4*	*
September	57.7	55.4	54.0	1.4	2.3	*4.0*	*4.8*	*
October	57.2	55.0	53.6	1.4	2.2	*3.8*	*5.0*	*
November	57.0	54.8	53.6	1.2	2.2	*3.8*	*5.5*	*
December	57.3	54.7	53.7	1.0	2.6	*4.5*	*6.2*	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	*4.6*	*6.0*	.1
1981								
January	55.8	52.7	51.8	.9	3.1	*5.6*	*7.5*	*
February	57.1	53.8	52.8	1.0	3.3	*5.8*	*7.6*	*
March	57.7	54.6	53.4	1.2	3.0	*5.2*	*6.9*	*
April	58.2	55.6	54.1	1.5	2.6	*4.4*	*6.1*	*
May	*57.5*	*55.1*	*53.6*	*1.5*	*2.4*	*4.2*	*5.3*	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

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[1] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

[2] *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV
MONTANA
Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1/]	382.7	371.3	370.7	11.4	12.0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	359.2	345.7	347.2	13.5	12.0
Persons Employed in Agriculture	32.6	26.5	33.4	6.1	-.8
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	23.5	25.6	23.5	-2.1	0
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2/]	*6.1*	*6.9*	*6.4*	*-.8*	*-.3*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2/]	*5.9*	*5.9*	*6.1*	*0*	*-.2*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	279.3	276.8	276.2	2.5	3.1
MANUFACTURING	21.7	22.5	21.6	-.8	.1
Durable Goods	12.9	13.5	13.1	-.6	-.2
24 Lumber and Wood Products	8.1	8.8	6.7	-.7	1.4
33 Primary Metal Industries	2.0	1.9	3.1	.1	-1.1
Other Durable Goods	2.8	2.8	3.3	0	-.5
Nondurable Goods	8.7	9.0	8.5	-.3	.2
20 Food and Kindred Products	3.6	3.9	3.8	-.3	-.2
27 Printing and Publishing	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	.1
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.0	1.0	.8	0	.2
Other Nondurable Goods	1.8	1.8	1.6	0	.2
MINING	7.7	7.8	8.3	-.1	-.5
10 Metal Mining	1.6	1.6	2.3	0	-.7
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	2.3	2.3	2.2	0	.1
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	3.7	3.9	3.7	-.2	0
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	13.9	12.5	13.2	1.4	.7
15 General Building Contractors	4.3	3.9	4.4	.4	-.1
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	4.3	3.7	3.3	.6	1.0
17 Special Trade Contractors	5.3	4.9	5.5	.4	-.2
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.1	23.2	22.6	-.1	.5
40 Railroad Transportation	7.3	7.3	6.9	0	.4
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.2	6.2	6.3	0	-.1
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	9.6	9.6	9.4	0	.2
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	71.8	70.6	71.8	1.2	0
Wholesale Trade	18.0	18.0	17.5	0	.5
Retail Trade	53.8	52.6	54.3	1.2	-.5
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	7.7	7.7	8.0	0	-.3
54 Food Stores	7.6	7.6	7.7	0	-.1
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.7	7.7	7.9	0	-.2
58 Eating and Drinking Places	19.9	19.0	19.8	.9	.1
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	10.8	10.6	10.8	.2	0
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	12.7	12.7	12.8	0	-.1
SERVICES	57.3	56.4	55.3	.9	2.0
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	6.8	6.7	6.4	.1	.4
72 Personal Services	2.8	2.7	2.8	.1	0
80 Medical and other Health Services	18.8	18.7	18.1	.1	.7
Other Services	28.8	28.3	28.1	.5	.7
GOVERNMENT	71.2	71.2	70.6	0	.6
91 Federal Government	13.2	12.9	12.9	.3	.3
92 State Colleges and Universities	8.2	8.2	8.3	0	-.1
92 Other State Government	10.5	10.8	10.6	-.3	-.1
93 Local Education	25.0	25.0	24.7	0	.3
93 Other Local Government	14.2	14.3	14.0	-.1	.2

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.

Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(*Establishment Data in italics*)

TABLE V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY				Net Changes to Current Month from:	
	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/	35.5	34.7	33.5	.8	2.0
EMPLOYED PERSONS	32.9	32.1	31.4	.8	1.5
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.3	1.0	1.3	.3	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.6	2.6	2.1	0	.5
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted2/	*7.3*	*7.6*	*6.3*	*.3*	*1.0*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted2/	*7.0*	*7.0*	*6.6*	*0*	*.4*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	29.4	29.2	29.2	.2	.2
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.7	0	-.4
Contract Construction	1.7	1.5	1.5	.2	.2
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
Trade	9.6	9.5	9.3	.1	.3
Wholesale Trade	3.0	3.0	2.7	0	.3
Retail Trade	6.6	6.5	6.6	.1	0
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	-.1
Services and Mining	7.0	7.0	7.0	0	0
Government	6.0	6.1	5.8	-.1	.2
Federal Government	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
State and Local Government	4.2	4.3	4.0	-.1	.2

1/ *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

2/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Current month preliminary *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

TABLE VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Mar. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	58.2	57.6	55.5	.6	2.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	55.6	54.6	53.0	1.0	2.6
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.5	1.2	1.5	.3	0
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.6	3.0	2.5	-.4	.1
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*4.4*	*5.2*	*4.4*	*-.8*	*0*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*4.5*	*4.4*	*4.5*	*.1*	*0*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	47.4	47.3	47.0	.1	.4
Manufacturing	4.0	4.2	4.0	-.2	0
Contract Construction	2.5	2.3	2.4	.2	.1
Transportation and Public Utilties	4.8	4.8	4.7	0	.1
Trade	15.6	15.5	15.9	.1	-.3
Wholesale Trade	5.7	5.7	5.5	0	.2
Retail Trade	9.9	9.8	10.4	.1	-.5
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.2	2.3	2.3	-.1	-.1
Services and Mining	10.3	10.2	9.8	.1	.5
Government	8.0	8.0	7.8	0	.2
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
State and Local Government	6.5	6.5	6.3	0	.2

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[1] *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

[2] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Current month preliminary

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			3/ UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981
STATEWIDE	362.4	371.3	382.7	334.9	345.7	359.2	27.5	25.6	23.5	*7.6*	*6.9*	*6.1*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.2	34.7	35.5	31.3	32.1	32.9	2.9	2.6	2.6	*8.5*	*7.6*	*7.3*
BILLINGS SMSA	57.1	57.6	58.2	53.8	54.6	55.6	3.3	3.0	2.6	*5.8*	*5.2*	*4.4*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	271.0	279.0	289.0	249.7	259.1	270.7	21.3	19.9	18.3	*7.9*	*7.2*	*6.3*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	34.0	34.6	35.3	31.1	31.9	32.7	2.9	2.7	2.6	*8.5*	*7.7*	*7.5*
BOZEMAN	25.3	25.9	26.7	23.5	24.3	25.1	1.8	1.6	1.6	*7.1*	*6.2*	*5.8*
GLASGOW	16.1	17.0	18.1	15.2	16.1	17.4	.9	.9	.7	*5.6*	*5.1*	*3.9*
GLENDIVE	15.0	15.8	16.7	14.6	15.4	16.3	.4	.4	.4	*2.7*	*2.7*	*2.4*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.1	13.3	14.0	12.3	12.6	13.4	.8	.7	.6	*6.5*	*5.4*	*4.3*
HAVRE	12.1	12.8	13.4	11.2	12.0	12.7	.9	.8	.7	*7.4*	*5.9*	*5.1*
HELENA	28.0	28.4	29.1	26.4	27.0	27.8	1.6	1.4	1.3	*5.8*	*5.1*	*4.5*
KALISPELL	35.7	37.1	37.7	31.5	32.6	33.6	4.2	4.5	4.1	*11.9*	*12.1*	*10.8*
LEWISTOWN	9.7	10.3	10.9	9.2	9.8	10.6	.5	.5	.3	*5.5*	*4.7*	*3.3*
MILES CITY	16.3	16.7	17.4	15.4	15.9	16.8	.9	.8	.6	*5.5*	*4.7*	*3.8*
MISSOULA	49.0	49.9	50.9	43.9	45.2	46.5	5.1	4.7	4.4	*10.4*	*9.4*	*8.6*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.5	17.2	18.8	15.4	16.2	17.9	1.1	1.0	.9	*6.7*	*6.0*	*4.8*

[1/] *A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.*

[2/] *Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.*

[3/] *Unemployment rate is computed from whole numbers.*

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			[3] UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Change 1980-1981	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Change 1980-1981
STATEWIDE	382.7	370.7	*3.2*	359.2	347.2	*3.5*	23.5	23.5	*0*	6.1	6.4	*-.3*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.5	33.5	*6.0*	32.9	31.4	*4.8*	2.6	2.1	*.5*	7.3	6.3	*1.0*
BILLINGS SMSA	58.2	55.5	*4.9*	55.6	53.0	*4.9*	2.6	2.5	*.1*	4.4	4.4	*0*
BALANCE OF STATE[2]	289.0	281.7	*2.6*	270.7	262.7	*3.0*	18.3	19.0	*-.7*	6.3	6.7	*-.4*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.3	34.2	*3.2*	32.7	32.1	*1.9*	2.6	2.1	*.5*	7.5	6.0	*1.5*
BOZEMAN	26.7	26.5	*.7*	25.1	24.8	*1.2*	1.6	1.7	*-.1*	5.8	6.3	*-.5*
GLASGOW	18.1	17.0	*6.5*	17.4	16.4	*6.1*	.7	.6	*.1*	3.9	3.3	*.6*
GLENDIVE	16.7	15.6	*7.1*	16.3	15.2	*7.2*	.4	.4	*0*	2.4	2.6	*-.2*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	14.0	13.8	*1.4*	13.4	13.2	*1.5*	.6	.6	*0*	4.3	4.7	*-.4*
HAVRE	13.4	13.0	*3.1*	12.7	12.3	*3.2*	.7	.7	*0*	5.1	5.6	*-.5*
HELENA	29.1	28.3	*2.8*	27.8	26.9	*3.3*	1.3	1.4	*-.1*	4.5	5.1	*-.6*
KALISPELL	37.7	38.1	*-1.0*	33.6	33.3	*.9*	4.1	4.8	*-.7*	10.8	12.6	*-1.8*
LEWISTOWN	10.9	11.0	*-.9*	10.6	10.4	*1.9*	.3	.6	*-.3*	3.3	5.1	*-1.8*
MILES CITY	17.4	16.3	*6.8*	16.8	15.6	*7.7*	.6	.7	*-.1*	3.8	4.1	*-.3*
MISSOULA	50.9	50.0	*1.8*	46.5	45.5	*2.2*	4.4	4.5	*-.1*	8.6	9.1	*-.5*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	18.8	18.0	*4.4*	17.9	17.1	*4.7*	.9	.9	*0*	4.8	5.2	*-.4*

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[1] A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.
[2] Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
[3] Unemployment rate is computed from whole numbers.

TABLE IX-A

March 1981

(Revised)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	371311	345741	25570	6.9
CASCADE	34707	32064	2643	7.6
YELLOWSTONE	57582	54612	2970	5.2
BEAVERHEAD	4168	3966	202	4.8
BIG HORN	5840	5441	399	6.8
BLAINE	2914	2691	223	7.7
BROADWATER	1382	1289	93	6.7
CARBON	3459	3298	161	4.7
CARTER	791	776	15	1.9
CHOUTEAU	2834	2774	60	2.1
CUSTER	6216	5886	330	5.3
DANIELS	1375	1339	36	2.6
DAWSON	5983	5787	196	3.3
DEER LODGE	4619	3795	824	17.8
FALLON	2419	2378	41	1.7
FERGUS	5747	5435	312	5.4
FLATHEAD	22641	20173	2468	10.9
GALLATIN	19064	18042	1022	5.4
GARFIELD	818	809	9	1.1
GLACIER	5561	4938	623	11.2
GOLDEN VALLEY	371	362	9	2.4
GRANITE	1153	1057	96	8.3
HILL	8743	8247	496	5.7
JEFFERSON	2341	2197	144	6.2
JUDITH BASIN	1066	1032	34	3.2
LAKE	7578	6965	613	8.1
LEWIS AND CLARK	24676	23472	1204	4.9
LIBERTY	1138	1108	30	2.6
LINCOLN	6854	5445	1409	20.6
MC CONE	1157	1138	19	1.6
MADISON	2237	2113	124	5.5
MEAGHER	1043	979	64	6.1
MINERAL	1811	1593	218	12.0
MISSOULA	36607	33567	3040	8.3
MUSSELSHELL	1676	1604	72	4.3
PARK	5760	5252	508	8.8
PETROLEUM	277	269	8	2.9
PHILLIPS	2906	2775	131	4.5
PONDERA	3514	3388	126	3.6
POWDER RIVER	1156	1125	31	2.7
POWELL	3764	3534	230	6.1
PRAIRIE	839	806	33	3.9
RAVALLI	7523	6580	943	12.5
RICHLAND	6313	6167	146	2.3
ROOSEVELT	5129	4829	300	5.8
ROSEBUD	5683	5323	360	6.3
SANDERS	3912	3427	485	12.4
SHERIDAN	2995	2945	50	1.7
SILVER BOW	18665	17464	1201	6.4
STILLWATER	2226	2115	111	5.0
SWEET GRASS	1829	1773	56	3.1
TETON	2686	2589	97	3.6
TOOLE	2656	2534	122	4.6
TREASURE	431	417	14	3.2
VALLEY	4625	4271	354	7.7
WHEATLAND	1180	1134	46	3.9
WIBAUX	671	652	19	2.8

TABLE IX-B

April 1981

(Preliminary)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	382755	359244	23511	6.1
CASCADE	35475	32868	2607	7.3
YELLOWSTONE	58231	55650	2581	4.4
BEAVERHEAD	4223	4064	159	3.8
BIG HORN	5983	5660	323	5.4
BLAINE	3096	2901	195	6.3
BROADWATER	1330	1266	64	4.8
CARBON	3504	3339	165	4.7
CARTER	879	869	10	1.1
CHOUTEAU	3178	3132	46	1.4
CUSTER	6497	6254	243	3.7
DANIELS	1485	1460	25	1.7
DAWSON	6143	5975	168	2.7
DEER LODGE	4736	3889	847	17.9
FALLON	2467	2432	35	1.4
FERGUS	5926	5707	219	3.7
FLATHEAD	22997	20691	2306	10.0
GALLATIN	19571	18549	1022	5.2
GARFIELD	876	869	7	.8
GLACIER	5921	5318	603	10.2
GOLDEN VALLEY	413	404	9	2.2
GRANITE	1143	1060	83	7.3
HILL	9070	8602	468	5.2
JEFFERSON	2470	2335	135	5.5
JUDITH BASIN	1170	1145	25	2.1
LAKE	7975	7457	518	6.5
LEWIS AND CLARK	25272	24149	1123	4.4
LIBERTY	1260	1233	27	2.1
LINCOLN	6714	5457	1257	18.7
MC CONE	1221	1205	16	1.3
MADISON	2499	2392	107	4.3
MEAGHER	1113	1053	60	5.4
MINERAL	1867	1665	202	10.8
MISSOULA	37290	34318	2972	8.0
MUSSELSHELL	1804	1749	55	3.0
PARK	5970	5496	474	7.9
PETROLEUM	317	307	10	3.2
PHILLIPS	3241	3127	114	3.5
PONDERA	3729	3635	94	2.5
POWDER RIVER	1270	1251	19	1.5
POWELL	3794	3513	281	7.4
PRAIRIE	939	907	32	3.4
RAVALLI	7878	7074	804	10.2
RICHLAND	6787	6618	169	2.5
ROOSEVELT	5274	5027	247	4.7
ROSEBUD	5830	5490	340	5.8
SANDERS	3894	3481	413	10.6
SHERIDAN	3206	3180	26	.8
SILVER BOW	18908	17738	1170	6.2
STILLWATER	2364	2292	72	3.0
SWEET GRASS	2106	2069	37	1.8
TETON	2928	2843	85	2.9
TOOLE	3074	2991	83	2.7
TREASURE	469	462	7	1.5
VALLEY	4938	4641	297	6.0
WHEATLAND	1288	1250	38	3.0
WIBAUX	752	735	17	2.3

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

TABLE X

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
	Apr. 1981 1/	March 1981	Apr. 1980	Net Change to Current Month From: Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980	Total Apr. 1981	Percent Women	Total Mar. 1981	Percent Women
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers	132.5	132.7	129.4	-.2	3.1	279.3	47.4%	276.8	47.9%
Manufacturing	2.8	2.8	2.6	0	.2	21.7	12.9%	22.5	12.4%
Mining	.5	.5	.5	0	0	7.7	6.5%	7.8	6.4%
Contract Construction	1.5	1.5	1.4	0	.1	13.9	10.8%	12.5	12.0%
Transportation & Public Utilities	4.3	4.3	4.3	0	0	23.1	18.6%	23.2	18.5%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.4	35.4	35.7	0	-.3	71.8	49.3%	70.6	50.1%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	8.3	8.3	8.4	0	-.1	12.7	65.4%	12.7	65.4%
Services	35.2	35.3	34.5	-.1	.7	57.3	61.4%	56.4	62.6%
Government 2/	44.5	44.6	41.9	-.1	2.6	71.2	62.5%	71.2	62.6%

1/ *Current month preliminary.* *Revised to 1980 Benchmark.* *Establishment Series began January 1974.*

2/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.*

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

1980

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9	130.9	129.4	129.5	134.0	128.7	129.8	130.5	132.6	133.2	133.1	131.5
Manufacturing..................	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Mining.........................	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction..........	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.......	36.5	36.5	35.6	35.7	36.0	35.9	36.2	36.1	35.9	35.9	36.1	36.7	36.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.4
Services.......................	36.2	36.2	34.3	34.5	34.1	37.2	37.2	34.2	34.1	34.5	34.7	34.7	35.2
Government.....................	42.5	42.5	43.1	41.9	42.1	43.3	37.6	41.7	42.9	43.8	44.6	43.9	42.5

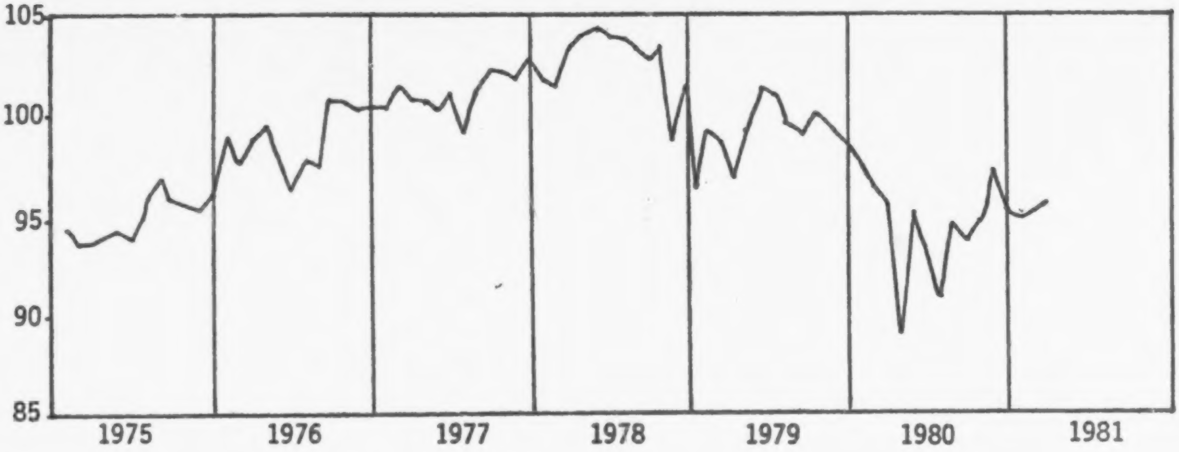
1981

Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	131.7	132.7	132.7	132.5
Manufacturing..................	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8
Mining.........................	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction..........	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade.......	35.5	35.4	35.4	35.4
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.3
Services.......................	34.5	35.5	35.3	35.2
Government.....................	44.0	44.6	44.6	44.5

1/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.* *Establishment Series began January, 1974.* *Revised to 1980 Benchmark.*

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



1972 = 100

Monthly Figures of Composite Index

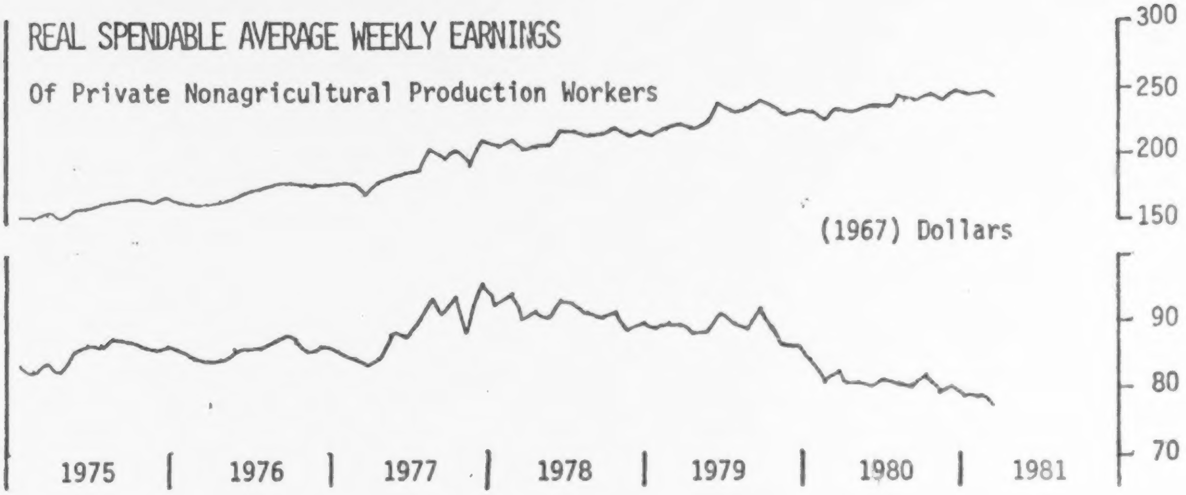
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
January	94.8	99.1	100.4	101.9	96.8	97.2	95.1
February	94.1	97.9	101.6	101.7	99.3	96.2	95.4
March	94.2	98.6	100.8	103.5	98.9	95.4	95.9
April	94.4	99.5	100.8	104.2	97.2	88.6	
May	94.6	98.4	100.4	104.3	99.4	94.3	
June	96.5	96.8	101.1	104.0	101.3	92.6	
July	96.3	98.0	99.4	103.8	101.0	90.4	
August	97.7	97.9	101.2	103.2	99.8	93.9	
September	96.3	100.8	102.3	102.8	99.6	93.3	
October	96.1	100.7	102.2	103.6	100.5	95.0	
November	95.8	100.5	101.9	99.0	99.8	97.4	
December	96.5	100.5	102.9	101.5	98.7	95.5	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

A slight increase was noted in the Composite Index during March. One big factor was the manufacturing layoff rate which dropped from 1.5 in February to 0.1 in March. Other positive movement was seen in manufacturing employment and the total number of building permits. Three components also measured negative movement. They were the manufacturing accession rate, average weekly initial claims and average weekly hours in manufacturing. The March composite index of 95.9 is an improvement over February, 1981 and March, 1980 both of which recorded a Composite Index of 95.4.

Components of Composite Index:

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.



	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	244.84	247.52	234.24
3/ Taxes Withheld	40.68	41.46	36.46
Spendable Earnings	204.17	206.06	197.77
Adjustment for Price Changes since 1967	127.18	127.86	115.33
Real Spendable Earnings	76.99	78.20	82.44

	1) Average Weekly Earnings			2) Real Spendable Earnings		
	1981	1980	1979	1981	1980	1979
January	245.28	232.60	215.42	78.44	84.36	89.20
Febuary	247.52	224.93	219.57	78.20	80.79	89.60
March	244.84	234.24	221.43	76.99	82.44	89.29
April		232.23	220.68		80.94	88.10
May		234.15	225.42		80.67	88.52
June		234.97	236.99		80.02	91.26
July		238.82	233.87		81.08	89.41
August		239.47	234.99		80.75	88.73
September		241.60	238.74		80.63	91.96
October		246.66	236.90		81.37	89.02
November		241.89	230.62		79.29	86.22
December		247.75	233.24		80.21	86.12

Real Spendable Earnings

Real spendable earnings dropped to $76.99 in March. This is the lowest number recorded since this series was originated in 1974. Gross average weekly earnings dropped from $247.52 in February to $244.84 in March. At the same time, the consumer price index rose from 263.5 to 265.2. In March of 1980, average weekly real spendable earnings were calculated at $82.44.

1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultrual production workers.
2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.
3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

Table XII

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent1/		
						Montana	U. S.	
1979								
January	369.7	347.0	314.4	32.6	22.7	6.1	5.8	*
February	369.0	348.3	315.7	32.6	20.9	5.6	5.7	1.1
March	367.1	347.4	314.9	32.5	19.7	5.4	5.7	*
April	368.7	348.7	316.3	32.4	20.0	5.4	5.8	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.8	32.3	19.4	5.2	5.8	.1
June	372.7	354.0	321.8	32.2	18.7	5.0	5.7	.1
July	368.0	349.9	317.8	32.1	18.1	4.9	5.7	*
August	368.1	350.6	318.6	32.0	17.5	4.8	5.9	.1
September	370.2	352.6	320.6	32.0	17.6	4.8	5.8	*
October	371.9	354.2	322.2	32.0	17.7	4.8	5.9	*
November	371.9	354.4	322.4	32.0	17.5	4.7	5.8	*
December	372.4	353.8	321.8	32.0	18.6	5.0	5.9	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.1
1980								
January	375.7	355.8	323.8	32.0	19.9	5.3	6.2	.7
February	376.1	356.3	324.4	31.9	19.8	5.3	6.2	1.1
March	376.5	355.9	324.2	31.7	20.6	5.8	6.3	.7
April	375.2	352.2	320.7	31.5	23.0	6.1	6.9	.3
May	374.4	352.5	321.1	31.4	21.9	5.9	7.6	.2
June	376.0	353.9	322.7	31.2	22.1	5.9	7.5	.2
July	370.0	345.4	314.3	31.1	24.6	6.7	7.6	2.7
August	370.9	348.0	317.0	31.0	22.9	6.2	7.6	2.6
September	370.7	348.2	317.0	31.2	22.5	6.1	7.4	3.1
October	372.9	350.6	319.3	31.3	22.3	6.0	7.6	1.3
November	375.2	353.1	321.8	31.3	22.1	5.9	7.5	1.3
December	374.6	352.2	320.8	31.4	22.4	6.0	7.4	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	6.0	7.1	1.2
1981								
January	375.5	354.1	322.7	31.4	21.4	5.7	7.4	*
February	382.0	358.5	327.2	31.3	23.5	6.2	7.3	1.0
March	384.8	362.1	331.1	31.0	22.7	5.9	7.3	*
April	387.2	364.2	333.5	30.7	23.0	5.9	7.3	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table XIII
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1979								
January	34.4	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.6	7.6	6.1	*
February	34.5	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.5	7.3	5.6	*
March	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.4	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	6.8	5.4	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	6.6	5.2	*
June	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	5.8	5.0	*
July	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	6.1	4.9	*
August	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.1	4.8	*
September	33.7	31.8	30.5	1.3	1.9	5.7	4.8	*
October	33.3	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.6	4.7	4.8	*
November	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	5.6	4.7	*
December	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	5.6	5.0	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	6.2	5.1	*
1980								
January	34.1	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.0	5.9	5.3	*
February	34.5	32.4	31.1	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.3	*
March	34.4	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.1	6.0	5.5	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.2	6.6	6.1	*
May	34.2	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.3	6.7	5.9	.2
June	33.5	31.0	29.6	1.2	2.5	7.5	5.9	.2
July	34.4	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.7	7.9	6.7	.5
August	34.3	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.6	7.4	6.2	.4
September	34.0	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.1	.4
October	34.2	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.6	7.5	6.0	*
November	34.4	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.5	7.2	5.9	*
December	34.5	32.0	30.6	1.2	2.5	7.2	6.0	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	6.9	6.0	.2
1981								
January	34.5	32.3	31.1	1.2	2.2	6.3	5.7	*
February	35.6	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.7	7.4	6.2	*
March	35.4	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.5	7.0	5.9	*
April	35.7	33.2	32.0	1.2	2.5	7.0	5.9	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
** Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIV
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Manage-ment Dispute[2/]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent*[1/] County	*Percent*[1/] State	
1979								
January	54.7	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.5	*4.5*	*6.1*	*
February	54.7	52.5	51.0	1.5	2.2	*4.1*	*5.6*	*
March	54.4	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.1	*3.8*	*5.4*	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	*3.9*	*5.4*	*
May	55.2	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.1	*3.8*	*5.2*	*
June	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	*3.5*	*5.0*	*
July	55.0	53.1	51.6	1.5	1.9	*3.4*	*4.9*	*
August	55.6	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.9	*3.4*	*4.8*	*
September	55.4	53.5	52.0	1.5	1.9	*3.3*	*4.8*	*
October	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	*3.4*	*4.8*	*
November	55.7	53.7	52.2	1.5	2.0	*3.6*	*4.7*	*
December	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	*3.6*	*5.0*	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	*3.7*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	56.3	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.2	*3.9*	*5.3*	.6
February	56.8	54.3	52.8	1.5	2.5	*4.4*	*5.3*	.7
March	56.7	54.2	52.7	1.5	2.5	*4.5*	*5.5*	.3
April	56.3	53.8	52.4	1.4	2.5	*4.5*	*6.1*	*
May	56.5	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.5	*4.5*	*5.9*	*
June	56.7	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.7	*4.7*	*5.9*	*
July	56.9	53.9	52.5	1.4	3.0	*5.3*	*6.7*	*
August	56.7	53.9	52.5	1.4	2.8	*4.9*	*6.2*	*
September	56.8	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.7	*4.8*	*6.1*	*
October	56.9	54.3	52.9	1.4	2.6	*4.5*	*6.0*	*
November	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	*4.3*	*5.9*	*
December	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	*4.4*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	*4.6*	*6.0*	.1
1981								
January	57.2	54.8	53.4	1.4	2.4	*4.2*	*5.7*	*
February	58.8	55.9	54.5	1.4	2.9	*4.8*	*6.2*	*
March	58.9	56.3	54.9	1.4	2.6	*4.4*	*5.9*	*
April	*59.1*	*56.4*	*55.0*	*1.4*	*2.7*	*4.5*	*5.9*	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.

** Under 50.*

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	April 1981	Mar. 1981	April 1980	April 1981	Mar. 1981	April 1980	April 1981	Mar. 1981	April 1980
TOTAL PRIVATE	247.65	244.84	232.23	36.1	35.9	36.4	6.86	6.82	6.38
MANUFACTURING	367.11	367.84	371.70	40.7	41.1	41.3	9.02	8.95	9.00
Durable Goods	361.78	365.62	375.46	39.8	40.4	40.9	9.09	9.05	9.30
Primary Metal Industries	373.50	391.09	427.99	30.0	31.9	40.8	12.45	12.26	10.49
Nondurable Goods	376.94	370.52	358.26	42.4	42.2	42.0	8.89	8.78	8.53
Food and Kindred Products	326.47	319.85	298.15	44.6	44.3	44.5	7.32	7.22	6.70
MINING	467.14	468.99	416.09	41.8	42.1	49.3	11.19	11.14	8.44
Metal Mining	467.24	467.24	398.31	40.7	40.7	35.5	11.48	11.48	11.22
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	395.00	401.00	377.85	39.5	39.9	37.3	10.00	10.05	10.13
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	363.44	363.88	334.65	44.0	44.0	42.2	8.26	8.27	7.93
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	386.54	388.05	361.37	50.2	50.2	48.9	7.70	7.73	7.39
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	202.25	192.51	190.63	31.9	31.0	33.8	6.34	6.21	5.64
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	158.84	165.24	158.73	37.2	37.3	33.7	4.27	4.43	4.71
SERVICES	159.03	158.81	148.68	34.2	34.3	34.1	4.65	4.63	4.36

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980	Mar. 1981	Feb. 1981	Mar. 1980
MANUFACTURING	1.3	1.1	1.6	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.4	0.6	0.5	2.3	4.0	2.8	0.7	0.9	0.7	1.4	1.5	1.5
Durable Goods	1.2	0.9	1.5	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.8	0.7	3.1	2.9	3.2	0.5	0.3	0.5	2.4	2.3	2.2
Primary Metal Industries	0.3	0.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.3	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.3	1.9	0.0	0.0	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.7
Nondurable Goods	1.5	1.5	1.7	1.4	1.3	1.7	0.1	0.2	0.0	1.1	5.6	2.0	0.9	1.7	1.1	0.0	0.2	0.1
MINING	3.9	3.1	15.5	3.6	2.7	11.7	0.0	0.4	2.5	6.1	11.4	8.1	4.6	3.7	2.2	1.2	4.7	4.8
Metal Mining	1.4	0.0	5.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	4.6	7.0	0.0	2.4	0.4	0.0	0.0	5.0	0.0	0.0

* *Less than .05.*

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggrigate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

			Year to Date	
Industry	April 1981	April 1980	Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	33	28	132	129
MINING	63	31	243	106
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	55	37	197	188
MANUFACTURING	22	9	96	83
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	31	19	110	88
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	158	104	574	457
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	61	37	284	174
SERVICES	142	125	678	581
NON-PROFIT SERVICES	(26)	(34)	(155)	(139)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	37	3	59	62
STATE TOTAL	602	393	2373	1868

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Year to Date 1981	1980
STATE OF MONTANA	602	393	2373	1868
GREAT FALLS SMSA	38	21	160	134
BILLINGS SMSA	83	55	311	270
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MULTI-COUNTY	109	77	468	187
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	46	13	144	113
Beaverhead	4	1	30	20
Deer Lodge	8	0	19	7
Granite	2	0	2	6
Madison	1	4	14	15
Powell	4	2	6	15
Silver Bow	27	6	73	50
BOZEMAN LMA	46	30	149	129
Gallatin	37	22	120	92
Meagher	2	2	3	7
Park	7	6	26	30
GLASGOW LMA	16	14	69	60
Daniels	1	2	3	4
Phillips	1	3	11	12
Roosevelt	6	5	21	19
Sheridan	5	1	20	11
Valley	3	3	14	14
GLENDIVE LMA	32	12	125	103
Dawson	8	3	42	30
Garfield	1	0	2	3
McCone	3	0	12	12
Prairie	0	1	2	6
Richland	20	8	64	51
Wibaux	0	0	3	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	11	10	43	44
Big Horn	2	2	6	12
Carbon	4	5	13	13
Stillwater	5	2	18	14
Sweet Grass	0	1	6	5

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS Apr. 1981	Apr. 1980	Year to Date 1981	1980
HAVRE LMA	17	13	76	49
Blaine	4	4	10	11
Hill	13	7	61	30
Liberty	0	2	5	8
HELENA LMA	46	25	153	11[illegible]
Broadwater	2	1	4	2
Jefferson	6	2	14	8
Lewis and Clark	38	22	135	108
KALISPELL LMA	54	44	228	227
Flathead	36	30	159	151
Lake	10	4	40	37
Lincoln	8	10	29	39
LEWISTOWN LMA	18	9	46	42
Fergus	12	6	24	24
Golden Valley	0	0	0	2
Judith Basin	0	0	3	3
Musselshell	5	2	11	11
Petroleum	0	0	2	1
Wheatland	1	1	6	1
MILES CITY LMA	16	13	70	62
Carter	0	1	2	4
Custer	7	3	30	15
Fallon	3	6	10	20
Powder River	1	3	10	6
Rosebud	5	0	17	16
Treasure	0	0	1	1
MISSOULA LMA	51	41	244	240
Mineral	2	0	6	5
Missoula	31	24	155	174
Ravalli	13	14	63	45
Sanders	5	3	20	16
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	19	16	87	90
Choteau	1	0	9	14
Glacier	7	4	26	28
Pondera	1	5	10	19
Teton	4	4	11	8
Toole	6	3	31	21

Sources of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individuals's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under Montana law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

ETAS-159B DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

APRIL 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	252	24,030.32
BIGHORN	346	35,691.30
BLAINE	256	19,938.64
BROADWATER	114	12,076.70
CARBON	296	31,646.43
CARTER	7	687.00
CASCADE	5,130	534,814.13
CHOUTEAU	45	4,088.00
CUSTER	444	44,834.26
DANIELS	39	4,222.00
DAWSON	135	13,286.00
DEER LODGE	1,806	214,535.82
FALLON	60	5,738.00
FERGUS	363	32,108.64
FLATHEAD	5,371	547,856.70
GALLATIN	1,807	160,089.50
GARFIELD	0	0.00
GLACIER	1,020	85,542.94
GOLDEN VALLEY	15	1,053.36
GRANITE	106	10,260.75
HILL	619	54,682.73
JEFFERSON	202	21,852.60
JUDITH BASIN	22	2,318.95
LAKE	791	74,424.81
LEWIS AND CLARK	1,806	171,560.69
LIBERTY	51	4,338.50
LINCOLN	2,578	282,650.56
MCCONE	10	800.00
MADISON	163	14,882.00
MEAGHER	94	8,687.16
MINERAL	339	35,120.11
MISSOULA	6,043	612,675.36
MUSSELSHELL	100	9,319.00
PARK	661	56,432.16
PETROLEUM	13	954.00
PHILLIPS	141	13,077.00
PONDERA	127	11,622.10
POWDER RIVER	19	2,087.00
POWELL	431	45,016.52
PRAIRIE	46	4,858.55
RAVALLI	1,387	165,283.57
RICHLAND	137	12,090.48
ROOSEVELT	279	26,367.56
ROSEBUD	527	55,608.85
SANDERS	503	90,775.55
SHERIDAN	33	3,469.00
SILVER BOW	2,235	225,870.06
STILLWATER	156	16,047.41
SWEET GRASS	60	6,566.00
TETON	90	9,362.00
TOOLE	122	11,719.49
TREASURE	15	1,492.00
VALLEY	517	54,481.53
WHEATLAND	42	3,479.00
WIBAUX	16	1,617.00
YELLOWSTONE	4,530	453,831.02
INTRASTATE	43,137	4,348,859.21
INTERSTATE	1,739	250,675.35
TOTAL	44,875	4,599,534.56

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1981 THRU APRIL 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,310	127,434.76
BIGHORN	1,847	189,566.74
BLAINE	1,157	101,023.86
BROADWATER	605	66,990.05
CARBON	1,369	144,350.76
CARTER	36	4,004.00
CASCADE	22,076	2,344,247.83
CHOUTEAU	243	23,350.00
CUSTER	2,169	218,789.44
DANIELS	151	16,307.00
DAWSON	702	70,685.00
DEER LODGE	9,017	1,064,431.42
FALLON	182	16,183.76
FERGUS	1,951	182,790.78
FLATHEAD	19,179	1,860,580.14
GALLATIN	9,102	841,094.57
GARFIELD	19	1,588.00
GLACIER	3,802	325,573.28
GOLDEN VALLEY	78	6,741.64
GRANITE	468	48,096.95
HILL	2,751	255,970.07
JEFFERSON	1,034	110,920.91
JUDITH BASIN	131	14,279.08
LAKE	4,242	388,658.38
LEWIS AND CLARK	9,078	882,123.56
LIBERTY	215	20,162.40
LINCOLN	8,431	849,248.87
MCCONE	58	4,647.00
MADISON	756	72,445.56
MEAGHER	477	45,372.06
MINERAL	1,503	155,847.98
MISSOULA	25,360	2,533,668.09
MUSSELSHELL	422	41,488.00
PARK	3,139	272,106.37
PETROLEUM	44	2,771.00
PHILLIPS	761	73,236.38
PONDERA	782	78,358.31
POWDER RIVER	96	10,585.00
POWELL	1,497	148,590.86
PRAIRIE	228	23,868.40
RAVALLI	6,078	592,325.44
RICHLAND	509	46,574.10
ROOSEVELT	1,221	112,125.56
ROSEBUD	2,420	264,973.14
SANDERS	3,544	346,832.15
SHERIDAN	153	14,607.00
SILVER BOW	9,979	1,023,011.61
STILLWATER	867	93,746.47
SWEET GRASS	388	41,325.00
TETON	595	60,867.00
TOOLE	633	65,198.07
TREASURE	74	7,598.00
VALLEY	1,981	204,919.73
WHEATLAND	146	13,464.00
WIBAUX	91	8,861.00
YELLOWSTONE	22,026	2,279,895.37
INTRASTATE	187,173	18,819424.74
INTERSTATE	7,655	1,224,642.53
TOTAL	194,828	20,044,067.27

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1981	1980	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims1/	18,096	24,609	-6,513	-26.5
Continued Claims1/	215,701	239,059	-23,358	-9.8
Number of Benefit Payments1/	194,828	201,129	-6,301	-3.1
Amount of Benefits Paid1/	$20,044,067	$18,620,765	$1,423,302	7.6
Average Weekly Benefit Amount1/2/	$110.50	$97.03	$13.47	13.9

MONTHLY

	April 1981	March 1981	April 1980	Change From Year Ago	
				Net	Percent
Initial Claims1/	3,653	3,756	7,203	-3,550	-49.3
Continued Claims1/	45,804	59,290	59,926	-14,122	-23.6
Number of Benefit Payments1/	44,875	52,618	50,888	-6,013	-11.8
Amount of Benefits Paid1/	$4,599,535	$5,577,253	$4,773,148	-$173,613	-3.6
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt1/2/	$109.85	$114.26	$99.13	$10.72	10.8
Trust Fund Balance	$14,934,511	$11,080,371	$11,069,913*	$3,864,598	34.9

1/ Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.
2/ Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".
** Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $7,084,089.*

The initial claims count for April reflects the normal seasonal decrease from the previous month. However, the drastic change from April of a year ago adequately describes the economic climate of that period. Continued claims also mirror the economic improvement from a year ago.

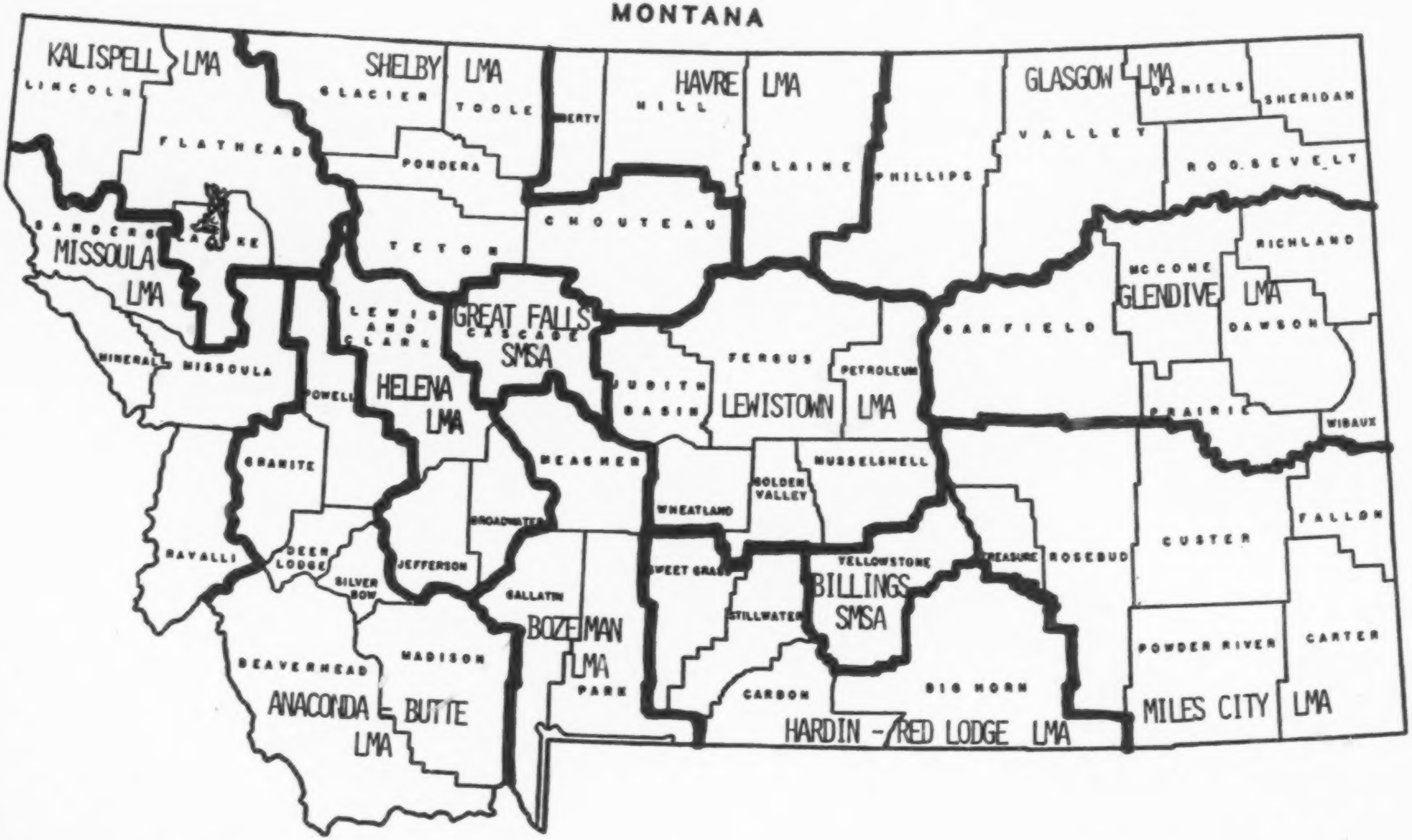
The number of benefit payments decreased 14.7% from March to April and 11.8% from April of a year ago. The amount of benefit payments also dropped significantly--17.5% from March to April but only 3.6% from April of a year ago.

The average weekly benefit amount dropped 3.9% from March to April, but that was caused by the unusual increase from February to March. The April 1981 figure is still 10.8% ahead of April 1980.

The Trust Fund is beginning to get healthy again as shown by the 34.9% increase from April of a year ago. This trend should continue over the next six months.

Overall, the year-to-date figures reflect an improvement over a year ago with initial claims, continued claims and number of benefit payments down somewhat. The amount of benefits paid and the average weekly benefit amount reflect increases, but that is due in large part to inflationary trends.

LABOR MARKET AREAS
IN
MONTANA


KALISPELL LMA
LINCOLN
FLATHEAD
SHELBY LMA
GLACIER
TOOLE
PONDERA
LIBERTY
HILL
HAVRE LMA
BLAINE
PHILLIPS
GLASGOW LMA
DANIELS
SHERIDAN
VALLEY
ROOSEVELT
SANDERS
LAKE
MISSOULA LMA
TETON
CHOUTEAU
RICHLAND
MC CONE
GLENDIVE LMA
DAWSON
MINERAL
MISSOULA
LEWIS AND CLARK
GREAT FALLS SMSA
CASCADE
FERGUS
PETROLEUM
GARFIELD
POWELL
HELENA LMA
JUDITH BASIN
LEWISTOWN LMA
PRAIRIE
WIBAUX
GRANITE
MEAGHER
WHEATLAND
GOLDEN VALLEY
MUSSELSHELL
BROADWATER
FALLON
CUSTER
RAVALLI
DEER LODGE
JEFFERSON
SILVER BOW
SWEET GRASS
YELLOWSTONE
TREASURE
ROSEBUD
GALLATIN
BOZEMAN LMA
STILLWATER
BILLINGS SMSA
BEAVERHEAD
MADISON
PARK
CARBON
BIG HORN
POWDER RIVER
CARTER
ANACONDA - BUTTE LMA
HARDIN - RED LODGE LMA
MILES CITY LMA

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
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P.O. BOX 1728
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The Montana State Employment Security Division maintains 24 local Job Service offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.

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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

JUNE - 1981

JOB SERVICE

RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P.O. BOX 1728
HELENA, MONTANA 59601

LOCAL OFFICE LISTING

ANACONDA
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Anaconda, MT 59711
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(563-3445)

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(248-7371)

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1425 Broadwater Ave.
Suite E
Billings, MT 59102
(259-5529)

BILLINGS WEST
445 S. 24th St. W.
Billings, MT 59102
(652-2920)

BOZEMAN
220 W. Lamme
Bozeman, MT 59715
(586-5455)

BUTTE
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Butte, MT 59701
(792-0417)

BUTTE PROGRAM OFFICE
Idaho & Mercury Sts.
Butte, MT 59701
(792-9115)

CUT BANK
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Cut Bank, MT 59427
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Glasgow, MT 59231
(524-7371)

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608 Main Street
Thompson Falls, MT 59873
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122 Second Ave. S.
Wolf Point, MT 59201
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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

June 1981

STATE OF MONTANA
TED SCHWINDEN, GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
DAVID L. HUNTER, COMMISSIONER

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
FRED BARRETT, ADMINISTRATOR

Volume 11 - Number 6

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U. S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration

For more information contact:
Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis Section
Employment Security Division
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59624
(406) 449-2430

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all. were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of people by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of jobs by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics X-11 variant of the Census Method II seasonal adjustment program.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six economic indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

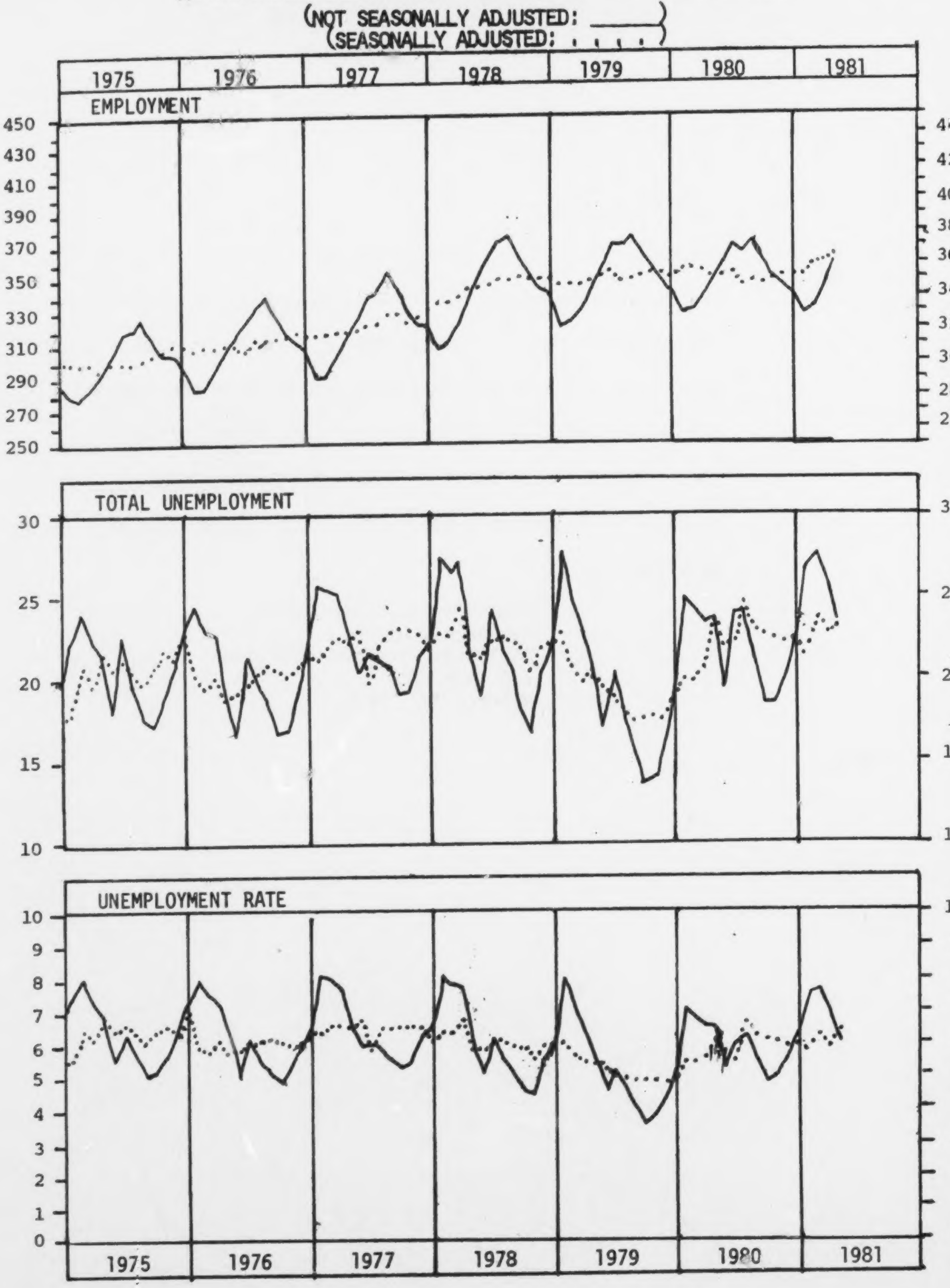
11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE



All Labor Force Statistics contained in this publication are in accordance with the Federal guidelines as established by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Methodology procedures use a household sample conducted in Montana on a monthly basis, called the Current Population Survey. These official statistics are used to allocate federal funding. Any questions concerning these figures should be directed to:

Bob Rafferty, Supervisor
Research & Analysis
Employment Security Division
P.O. Box 1728
Helena, MT 59601

STATEWIDE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	390.4	385.0	377.1	5.4	13.3
Employment	368.2	361.5	357.6	6.7	10.6
Unemployment	22.2	23.5	19.5	-1.3	2.7
Unemployment Rate	*5.7*	*6.1*	*5.2*	*-.4*	*.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Ten counties were declared disaster areas from the floods at the end of May. The ten counties form a triangle with Cascade, Gallatin and Missoula counties at the corners. Carbon County was added a week later as more precipitation caused flooding there. The high water caused extensive property damage and some loss of employment. Seventy-five percent of the disaster recovery money will come from the federal government and the remainder will be paid by state and local sources.

Agriculture employment is nearing its seasonal high. The extremely wet weather delayed field work and seeding of some spring crops was done quite late. Cultivating and irrigating are being done as the weather permits and the haying season is just beginning. The condition of the winter wheat and spring planted crops is reported good throughout most of the state.

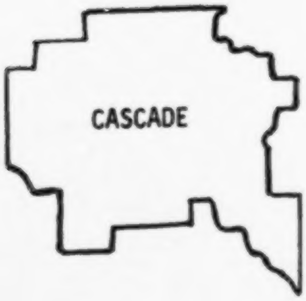
Montana's mining industry has had different leaders over the years. Currently, coal extraction is at the head of the list but this might change soon. Coal production is somewhat ahead of last year but it is still well below the 2.5 million tons mined in 1979. The decline in the use of coal is blamed on the weather, conservation and the economy. The portion of the "Overthrust Belt" in the state is attracting much exploration. Oil and gas seismic studies have doubled in the last two years. If drilling activity is successful, the new mining industry leader may be oil and gas.

The number of building permits issued around the state is about the same as last year and still much lower than two years ago. Continuing high prime lending rates and a recent raise in the rates of Farmers Home Administration loans do not help. The lack of building continues to hurt the state's lumber industry. The western area of the state depends mostly on the timber industry and the five counties classified as labor surplus areas because they have such high unemployment rates are all in the west.

Tourist counts around the state are up sharply over last year and may surpass 1978 totals. Much of the increased tourism this year is credited to leveled off prices and a surplus of gasoline. Retail trade and hotel/motel industries will get a welcome lift from this increase in travel.

The unemployment rate dropped in May due to a nice increase in employment. Cutbacks in government employment, layoffs due to economic conditions in copper mining, continued soft lumber market, relocation of the headquarters of a major communications company and seasonal layoffs of school employees do not give a good outlook for the next few months.

GREAT FALLS SMSA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	35.6	35.7	34.3	-.1	1.3
Employment	33.2	33.1	32.4	.1	.8
Unemployment	2.4	2.6	1.9	-.2	.5
Unemployment Rate	*6.8*	*7.3*	*5.6*	*-.5*	*1.2*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Cascade County was one of the counties declared a disaster area from the flood late in May. Property damage occurred all along the Missouri River. Three weeks after the high water had receeded in most areas, the river was still a foot and a half above flood stage at Great Falls. There were some temporary work stoppages from the wet weather.

The number of construction permits issued in May totaled 53--six less than in April and 20 less than May of 1980. Total value of the permits was $1.3 million which was also less than the previous month and less than the same month a year ago. Bids were accepted in June for a new 38,867 square foot grocery store to be built in the northwest area of the city. The estimated cost of building the new store is $1.6 million. This should provide a nice boost to construction in the coming months.

The search for energy is providing job opportunities for roustabouts, drillers, derrick workers, boiler mechanics, electricians and toolpushers. Training is needed for a number of the positions and Montana is an area where much of this exploration is going on. The possibility of establishing such a training center in Great Falls is currently being investigated by the Economic Growth Council. A fund of the Old West Regional Commission was used for a $13,000 grant to fund the study.

Area schools closed the first week in June. Many school employees and students are looking for summer work. The local Job Service noticed a sharp increase in new and additional unemployment insurance claims as school employees were laid off. The Youth Employment Corps began their program to employ 220 low income youth in a six county area that includes Cascade County.

Two years of contract negotiations have not solved the problems between the City and the Plumbers and Fitters Union as pickets began to appear the first of June at some work sites. The school district and the teachers are also attempting to negotiate a new contract as the present two year contract expires June 30.

BILLINGS SMSA

YELLOWSTONE

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	58.8	58.7	56.1	.1	2.7
Employment	56.4	56.1	54.0	.3	2.4
Unemployment	2.4	2.6	2.1	-.2	.3
Unemployment Rate	4.2	4.4	3.8	-.2	.4

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Reports on economic activity in the Billings area consist mostly of business slowdowns and a large number of layoffs. A couple of labor negotiations were also reported. With Billings being in an energy development area, it is expected to show considerable growth in the coming years. Energy development will be added to the coal and oil business along with Billings being a major wholesaler. Billings is expected to be a major regional center soon.

A Boise company recently announced the layoff of 25 persons in its housing manufacturing plant in Laurel. They said the layoff was due to a lack of orders. The orders dropped from a high average of 15 per week to a new average of 5 per week. Another manufacturing firm has also laid off workers due to a lack of sales. Four persons were affected by the layoff.

A packing plant and a tractor and equipment dealer together have laid off 24 persons. Seven employees were also affected when an insurance business laid off its staff and underwent an audit and reorganization.

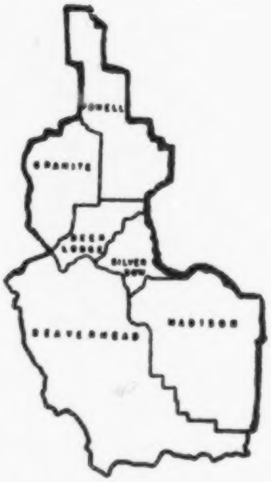
Also in Billings, a dinner theatre has announced that they cannot afford to stay open when business is so slow. A record store has also closed and is moving to North Dakota. Three employees went without work when a bathroom fixture store decided it could not stay in business.

A Billings based marketing division for a major oil company will be closing on September 1, 1981. The sparce population of the area was their reason for moving because it was too expensive to leave a division office there.

Fire destroyed a golf course club house and delayed the opening of the club. A new building is expected to be completed in a couple of weeks.

Billings will have a new deli soon. Also new is an electrical construction company which established a district office in Billings. They presently employ 25 persons and expect to employ up to 200 persons with work to be done in the Colstrip area.

ANACONDA - BUTTE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	36.3	35.5	35.0	.8	1.3
Employment	33.9	32.8	33.3	1.1	.6
Unemployment	2.4	2.7	1.7	-.7	.7
Unemployment Rate	6.7	7.5	5.0	-.8	1.7

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Four hundred workers are laid off at copper mines and the concentrator in Butte. The primary reason for the layoffs is the weak copper market which has been affected by declining auto sales and home construction. The market price for copper is 76¢ a pound and production costs are over $1 a pound. The layoffs will stop the exploration project in an underground mine. Daily production of 44,000 tons of ore a day from the open pit and 20 tons per month from the concentrator is expected to continue despite the employment cutback.

Flooding caused Butte-Silver Bow, Granite and Powell counties to be declared disaster areas the first of June. The worst property damage was reported in the city of Deer Lodge. A center was set up in Deer Lodge to help people apply for disaster relief assistance. Some temporary unemployment occurred as heavy rain showers stopped outdoor work in May.

Agriculture work consisted mostly of cultivating, fencing and irrigating over the previous month. Peak employment of agriculture workers starts the end of June as the haying season begins. Area crops look good. Range feed supplies are providing excellent grazing.

The search for energy is continuing in Beaverhead County. Several oil companies have submitted operating plans for exploration in the area. The companies bring most of the crews with them, but if any quantity of oil and gas is found, it will have quite an impact on Dillon.

The manufacturing industry shows signs of improvement. Attracted by a low interest loan, a trained labor force and better access to the market, a company which makes plastic products is moving its factory from Hamilton to Anaconda. The firm now employs 30-40 people and projects 180 workers next year and 500 by 1985. A Deer Lodge man will begin producing his invention, a welding helmet, in June. The firm will employ 6 to 8 people to manufacture 50 helmets a day at first. If the market is as good as hoped they will eventually expand the operation by a factor of 5 to 10. An independent logging operation has opened a sawmill southwest of Dillon.

BOZEMAN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

MEAGHER
GALLATIN
PARK

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	26.8	26.8	27.0	0	-.2
Employment	25.5	25.2	25.6	.3	-.1
Unemployment	1.3	1.6	1.4	-.3	-.1
Unemployment Rate	4.8	5.8	5.1	-1.0	-.3

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Heavy precipitation the end of May caused severe flooding in the area. Gallatin and Meagher Counties were declared disaster areas. The flooding not only caused personal property damage but also a slowdown in outdoor work activity. The Job Service offices have reported some temporary layoffs and a rise in initial claims for unemployment due to the wet weather.

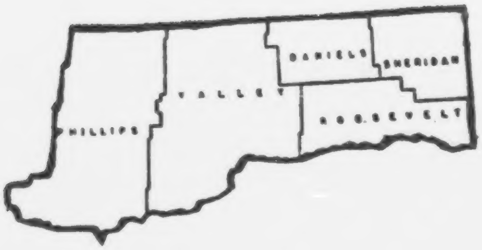
Agriculture employment is nearing its summer peak as field work continues when possible and the first crop of hay is ready for cutting. There have been several job openings in the Bozeman area for qualified farm equipment mechanics and farm or ranch hands and couples. The supply of workers in the area is meeting the increased demand.

Logging was especially affected by the wet weather. Logging roads became impassable and were closed preventing the mills from receiving logs. One sawmill closed for a week because it ran out of logs.

There were four more building permits issued in Bozeman in May of this year than in the same month last year. The value of the 22 permits issued this year, however, was only $373,000 compared with $1.1 million for the 18 last year. Some major commercial building projects should provide a boost for construction in June. Work on a restaurant and a new City Library has begun. Contracts for a water treatment plant and $4.5 million worth of additions and remodeling to the Student Union Building at the university have been awarded. The general contractor and electrical contractor for the Student Union Building are Bozeman firms. Another bright spot for construction workers is at Big Sky where fifty people have been building condominiums all winter, twelve units are now under construction and forty more are to be built this summer.

Tourism is providing for numerous summer job openings in motel and restaurant work in Bozeman, Livingston, and the entrances to Yellowstone Park. Frequently the demand for workers exceeds the supply. Retail trade is also increasing and providing some jobs for sales clerks.

GLASGOW LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

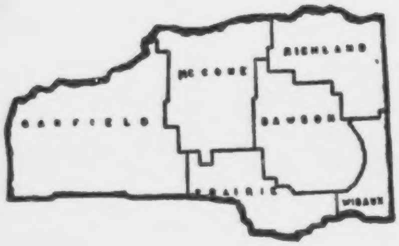
	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	18.8	18.2	17.5	.6	1.3
Employment	18.1	17.5	17.0	.6	1.1
Unemployment	.7	.7	.5	---	.2
Unemployment Rate	*3.9*	*3.9*	*2.8*	---	*1.1*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Work on a natural gas pipeline is now in full swing in the LMA. Actual construction of the pipeline started near the middle of June, but the unloading, welding, and hauling of pipe has been going on for over a month. A work force of 600-800 will be maintained in the area for several months. Craft unions with headquarters in Great Falls are handling much of the job placements for employees involved in actual pipeline construction. Officials report inquiries from all areas of the country, and point out there are already waiting lists for many craft positions.

Recent rainfall of two to four inches has made grain and grass conditions look much better. Field work activity picked up pace and openings for irrigators were reported. The rain slowed seismic exploration which was slow to begin with--two crews moved out of the area, but some new crews have located near Wolf Point. Activity in retail trade is up due to the pipeline crews and other activity at an area industrial park. Construction activity was slow through the period and no new major projects are expected. Four sub-contractors did begin work on a tribal housing project near Wolf Point, however.

GLENDIVE LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	17.2	16.8	16.2	.4	1.0
Employment	16.8	16.4	15.9	.4	.9
Unemployment	.4	.4	.3	---	.1
Unemployment Rate	*2.3*	*2.4*	*2.0*	*-.1*	*.3*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Hotel/motel construction projects highlight the area economy this period. In Glendive, $1.25 million of industrial revenue bonds were issued to finance construction of a new 60-unit motel. Fifty to seventy construction workers will be hired for the job which should be finished in about seven months. Fourteen permanent jobs will be created at the motel. In Sidney, work is to begin this month on a new 60-unit motel; two other 100-unit motels are also in the planning stage. $1.5 million will be spent in Glendive on a project to expand two elementary schools. Work should begin this month and last until January.

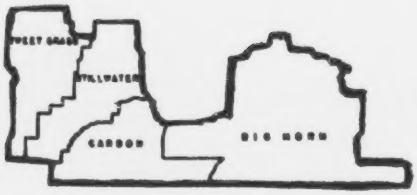
Several commercial building projects continued through the period in Sidney--a truck repair shop, a body shop, a fencing company facility, and a car wash. The weather slowed highway construction, but several home construction projects continued without interruption. Activity in the oilfields was stable; a new oil service company opened in Sidney employing eleven rig consultants.

Activity in agriculture was stable. Calving is complete and branding should start soon. Migrant workers are moving into the area to do sugar beet thinning. A severe frost killed over 10,000 acres of sugar beets this period.

HARDIN - RED LODGE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	14.5	14.0	14.1	.5	.4
Employment	13.8	13.4	13.6	.4	.2
Unemployment	.7	.6	.5	.1	.2
Unemployment Rate	*4.9*	*4.3*	*3.5*	*.6*	*1.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Agriculture activities are increasing as spring seeding is completed, sugar beet thinning is near the halfway mark, haying is starting and irrigating and summer fallowing proceed as needed. Wet conditions in May delayed some seeding and the deadline for getting the spring grain planting done to qualify for crop insurance was changed from May 20 to May 30. Field work was again delayed early in June as heavy precipitation caused the Clark Fork of the Yellowstone River to go over its bank and flood many areas in Carbon County.

Demand for coal is comewhat better than last year when the major coal mines in southeastern Big Horn County produced 11.3 million tons of coal but production is still lower than in 1979. The low demand for coal is blamed on the economy, the mild winter and conservation. Core drilling tests will be conducted this summer on a coal bed that contains about 100 million tons of coal in the Joliet area. Mining of the coal is not anticipated in the near future because of the soft market for the product.

Another seismograph crew started to work in Carbon County in June. The Red Lodge office of an oil exploration firm is moving to new quarters and expanding its staff. At the oil and gas lease sale in June, the dozen tracts in Stillwater County brought from $5.25 to $31.50 per acre while the single tract leased in Carbon County netted $15.00 an acre.

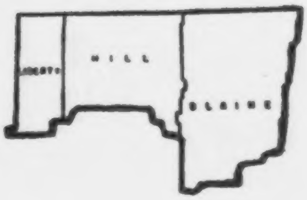
Construction work is progressing as weather permits. Recent flooding in the area will necessitate some unanticipated work. Plans for the Busby-Kirby road look good, but the proposal is not ready to be submitted to the State Highway Department. The Big Horn County Library will be remodeled this summer.

School boards are setting budgets and negotiating new contracts with school employees. At the school in Columbus, the cooks, bus drivers and janitors were given a 10% salary increase. In Red Lodge, the teachers and school board have settled on a 10.9% increase; the new base is now $12,000. The school budget in Hardin was increased by about 21 percent.

HAVRE LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	13.8	13.5	13.3	.3	.5
Employment	13.1	12.8	12.7	.3	.4
Unemployment	.7	.7	.6	0	.1
Unemployment Rate	*5.1*	*5.1*	*4.6*	*0*	*.5*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Grain crops and stock water supplies have improved due to moisture received over the reporting period. Hiring of agriculture workers was quite slow during May. Reports show that the Havre Job Service received seven openings for farm and ranch workers in May. These numbers should increase as harvesting of the hay crop begins in June.

Seismic exploration activity north of Havre was delayed as the industry is not willing to pay the compensation that the landowners are demanding. South of town, however, a Canadian firm is shooting twelve charges per mile after meeting the landowner's demands. The Tiger Ridge field, south of Chinook has produced oil shows in a 4,140 foot well drilled by a Havre firm.

Construction in the area is progressing as a new bank building was completed, a grocery store is nearly finished and foundations were poured for two other commercial buildings. Work has begun on a library addition to an elementary school in Havre. A Chinook firm was awarded the $8,500 contract for the concrete and preparation work.

Ninety-two businesses and corporations in the area have registered with the Secretary of State so far this year. This is nearly fifty percent more than had registered through May of last year. The Havre Job Service reports that several businesses are having grand openings in June.

Temporary cutbacks at a tractor manufacturing firm, seasonal layoffs of school employees and elimination of CETA positions is keeping the Unemployment Insurance Claim load high. Many people living on the Indian reservations have relied on work programs funded by the government. Cuts in the Federal Budget have eliminated many of these programs and some tribal council members on the Rocky Boy reservation estimate the unemployment rate there will increase sharply.

HELENA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

LEWIS AND CLARK
JEFFERSON

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	29.9	29.2	28.7	.7	1.2
Employment	28.5	27.9	27.5	.6	1.0
Unemployment	1.4	1.3	1.2	.1	.2
Unemployment Rate	4.5	4.5	4.3	0	.2

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

All three counties in the area were declared disaster areas due to flooding which occurred the end of May. Property damage and some loss of work resulted from the high water. State and Federal teams set up special offices to help people file claims for disaster relief. Some temporary clerks and interviewers were hired to staff these offices. The Young Adult Conservation Corps is providing 18 people to help clean up flood damage in the area.

Agriculture has benefited from the moisture received over the last month. Crop and range conditions are good and should improve with warm weather. There was some extra work for fencers to repair enclosures damaged during the flood. Demand for haying help is expected soon as the first crop of alfalfa is ready for cutting.

Residential construction is surpassing last year. The City building department has issued 56 new residential permits during the first five months of this year. Permits for only 21 new residential units were issued in the first five months of 1980. Many people are choosing to remodel or build additions to their present home rather than build a new home with high interest rates on the borrowed money. There have been 74 permits issued for remodeling this year which appears to be more than the department has issued for the last five years.

The local economy will soon feel the effects of a relocation by a private employer and reduction in government work force. A communication company, the largest single private employer in Helena, is removing a substantial portion of its payroll as restructuring will close the company's Montana headquarters. Many of their employees will be asked to relocate or be laid off. Another state department handed out 55 termination slips the end of May. City government will lay off five people the end of June.

KALISPELL LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

LINCOLN
FLATHEAD
LAKE

	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	38.1	37.9	38.1	.2	0
Employment	34.3	33.8	34.2	.5	.1
Unemployment	3.8	4.1	3.9	-.3	-.1
Unemployment Rate	*9.8*	*10.8*	*10.2*	*-1.0*	*-.4*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Economic activity in the Kalispell LMA consists of some new construction projects and seasonal employment in some industries. Warm dry weather during the first half of this reporting period allowed seasonal work to continue at a normal pace, but the last half of the period consisted of frequent rains which curtailed some outdoor work and slowed seasonal employment.

Construction in the LMA includes a few new projects reported at this time. In Kalispell, a Valier firm was awarded a $1,342,900 contract for the addition to a hospital. They will be adding a laboratory, a radiology section and an intensive care unit. In St. Ignatius, a 3,600 square foot addition to a bank building is planned. Also in St. Ignatius is a new restaurant and saloon. An $830,000 kiln dryer was added to the post and pole yard near Dixon. This new complex will employ 25 full-time persons and 7 part-time workers.

Construction in Polson remains very slow with alot of workers waiting to be called back to work by former employers. In May, building permits in Polson included a 4-plex, a new residence, and several small home improvements. The total of the permits issued was $730,000.

A mine development located 17 miles south of Troy is employing some former loggers experienced in operating moving equipment in the woods. Alot of young laborers are also employed. When the mine reaches full production, which is expected sometime this quarter, there will be 310 persons working there.

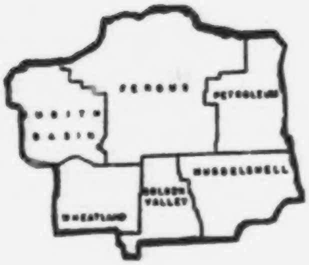
Lumber mills are talking of more layoffs if the market does not pick up. They are now running two different shifts every other week. Mills are not real optimistic about starting up on a full production scale.

Agricultural activity is made up of Christmas tree cultivation, and shearing is expected soon. Spud planting in the area is not far off. Activity was slowed somewhat by the frequent rains toward the second half of the reporting period.

LEWISTOWN LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



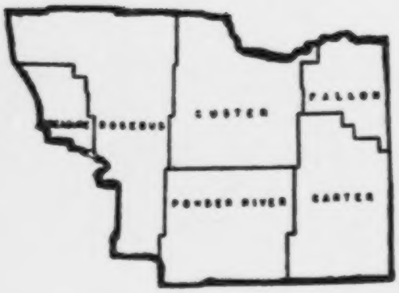
	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	11.3	11.0	11.4	.3	-.1
Employment	10.9	10.6	11.0	.3	-.1
Unemployment	.4	.4	.4	---	---
Unemployment Rate	*3.3*	*3.2*	*3.9*	*.1*	*-.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Activity was generally stable in most industry groups through the period with some minor exceptions in construction and forestry. One construction firm had to lay off several heavy equipment operators when wet weather made further work difficult. In building construction, two major commercial projects begun earlier this year are nearly complete with finish work the main activity. No new projects were announced this period. In forestry, slow business and soggy logs took their toll on employees at a lumber mill. Layoffs were made at the mill through most of the period with some being called back later. Activity in agriculture was also slowed due to damp conditions, but field work is being done as conditions permit.

There was continued demand for service workers--cooks, waitresses, and maids--due in part to a slight increase in tourism. All other occupations have an adequate supply of labor except for a shortage of auto mechanics.

MILES CITY LMA



Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)

				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	18.1	17.5	17.1	.6	1.0
Employment	17.5	16.8	16.5	.7	1.0
Unemployment	.6	.7	.6	- .1	0
Unemployment Rate	3.5	3.7	3.6	-.2	-.1

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

Heavy construction received a boost from a pipeline and a power line development. A new pipeline to carry crude oil will run from Belfield, ND to the Baker Station between Baker and Plevna, MT. The estimated cost for the project is $9 million and is scheduled to start in June. A new power plant is being built between Miles City and New Underwood, ND this summer.

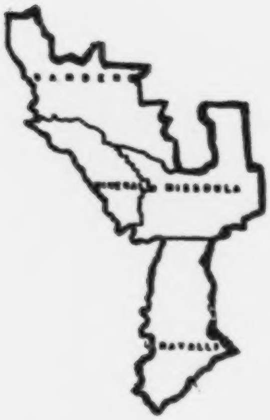
Colstrip continues expansion in services and trade development to meet the needs of the power plant workers. The high school and one elementary school are adding modular classroom buildings. One restaurant expanded into a 24 hour operation. Some of the construction projects include a water treatment plant, an auto supply store, highway expansion, trailer courts and a 100-unit housing project.

The power plant employment is over 1,000 and increasing. However, the unions report that there still is a sufficient number of names on the out-of-work list.

MISSOULA LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



				Net Changes to Current Month From:	
	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Apr. 1981	May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	51.6	51.2	49.5	.4	2.1
Employment	47.7	46.8	46.0	.9	1.7
Unemployment	3.9	4.4	3.5	-.5	.4
Unemployment Rate	*7.6*	*8.6*	*7.0*	*-1.0*	*.6*

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

The lumber and logging employment continues to be sluggish. Recent heavy rains reduced the number of logs that can be removed from the forest and processed in the mill. Many of the mills are on reduced working hours status or have to shut down for one to three week intervals. Also, the continued slow construction of housing is still a major factor in keeping the lumber and woods industry from returning to normal capacity. A pulp plant near Frenchtown was involved in a two day labor dispute. Nearly 600 workers waited for a new contract agreement to be reached by the company officials and union negotiators.

The Missoula's high school and vo-tech teachers continue their labor dispute. A State mediator has been assigned for negotiating a settlement. The state will hold back some funding for next year's budget because the required school days were not completed.

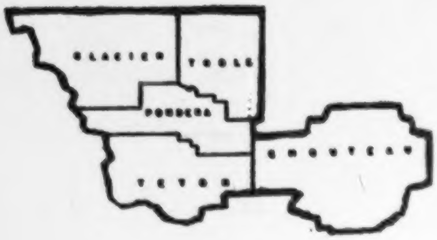
Mall expansion has become a major issue for the Missoula City Council to determine. The mall associates have two proposals--a drug store and hardware-home center that would be about 56,000 square feet and a four-store, 125,000 square foot addition. A market study sponsored by the proponents indicates there is room for expansion in those retail markets in Missoula. Other local businessmen disputed that mall expansion would hinder the development and refurbishing of the downtown area. Also noted that one of the major objections to the expansion project is its use of industrial revenue bonds. Many businesses resent the fact that the mall developers can obtain low-interest financing through the bonds, while they are borrowing money at 20 percent to upgrade their businesses.

The increase in tourism this summer has helped the service and trade industries activities. Agriculture activity is in a lull with little hiring noted.

SHELBY LMA

Employment and Unemployment Situation

(In Thousands)



	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month From: Apr. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month From: May 1980
Civilian Labor Force	19.5	18.9	18.7	.6	.8
Employment	18.5	18.0	17.9	.5	.6
Unemployment	1.0	.9	.8	.1	.2
Unemployment Rate	5.0	4.8	4.1	.2	.9

Economic Highlights and Employment Outlook:

This labor market area, made up of Glacier, Toole, Pondera, Chouteau, and Teton counties are included with Cascade County to participate in a youth program. The program will employ 220 young persons for 32 to 39 hours per week, between June 8 and September 30.

Ground is being cleared for a new car/truck wash in Shelby. It is anticipated that two other businesses will be opening. They include a glass shop and a chiropractic clinic. Several residential building permits were issued in Shelby during this reporting period.

Placements filled in the Cut Bank area include placements in eating establishments, construction laborers, and limited farm help.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE INSURED UNEMPLOYED

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Insured Unemployment*		
	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980
Non-White	*16.1%*	*16.0%*	*11.1%*
Female	*23.3%*	*19.3%*	*21.2%*
Youth	*5.4%*	*5.1%*	*7.1%*
Over 45	*21.1%*	*22.2%*	*19.3%*

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S. [1]

All Items

(1967 = 100)

	1979		1980		1981	
	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W	CPI-U	CPI-W
January	204.7	204.7	233.2	233.3	260.5	260.7
February	207.1	207.1	236.4	236.5	263.2	263.5
March	209.1	209.3	239.8	239.9	265.1	265.2
April	211.5	211.8	242.5	242.6	266.8	266.8
May	214.1	214.3	244.9	245.1	269.0	269.1
June	216.6	216.9	247.6	247.8		
July	218.9	219.4	247.8	248.0		
August	221.1	221.5	249.4	249.6		
September	223.4	223.7	251.7	251.9		
October	225.4	225.6	253.9	254.1		
November	227.5	227.6	256.2	256.4		
December	229.9	230.0	258.4	258.7		
AVERAGE	217.4	217.7	246.8	247.0		

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[1] *The Consumer Price Index (CPI) measures changes in prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups. The CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) covers about 40 percent of the total noninstitutional population. The CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) covers about 80 percent of the total noninstitutional population, including wage earners and clerical workers, salaried workers, the self-employed, retirees, and the unemployed.*

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table I

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2/]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1/] Montana	Percent[1/] U. S.	
1979								
January	348.7	321.0	299.5	21.3	27.7	*7.9*	*6.4*	*
February	349.2	324.6	301.4	23.2	24.6	*7.1*	*6.4*	1.1
March	353.7	331.1	303.3	27.8	22.6	*6.4*	*6.1*	*
April	364.2	343.8	309.6	34.2	20.4	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
May	373.0	356.0	320.7	35.3	17.0	*4.6*	*5.2*	.1
June	391.6	371.2	331.0	40.2	20.4	*5.2*	*6.0*	.1
July	388.5	370.9	327.9	43.0	17.6	*4.5*	*5.8*	*
August	391.1	375.4	329.4	46.0	15.7	*4.0*	*5.9*	.1
September	381.0	367.4	331.5	35.9	13.6	*3.6*	*5.6*	*
October	371.1	357.2	326.7	30.5	13.0	*3.8*	*5.6*	*
November	365.3	349.7	323.5	26.2	15.6	*4.3*	*5.6*	*
December	362.6	343.8	321.2	22.6	18.8	*5.2*	*5.6*	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	*5.1*	*5.8*	.1
1980								
January	354.8	329.9	309.1	20.8	24.9	*7.0*	*6.8*	.7
February	356.4	332.6	310.0	22.6	23.8	*6.7*	*6.8*	1.1
March	363.0	339.6	312.4	27.2	23.4	*6.5*	*6.6*	.7
April	370.7	347.2	313.8	33.4	23.5	*6.4*	*6.6*	.3
May	377.1	357.6	323.2	34.4	19.5	*5.2*	*7.0*	.2
June	394.7	370.9	331.7	39.2	23.8	*6.0*	*7.8*	.2
July	390.4	366.3	324.3	42.0	24.1	*6.2*	*7.9*	2.7
August	393.8	372.7	327.8	44.9	21.1	*5.4*	*7.5*	2.6
September	381.5	363.0	328.0	35.0	18.5	*4.8*	*7.1*	3.1
October	372.2	353.7	323.9	29.8	18.4	*5.0*	*7.1*	1.3
November	368.4	348.3	322.7	25.6	20.1	*5.5*	*7.1*	1.3
December	364.7	342.1	320.1	22.0	22.6	*6.2*	*6.9*	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	*6.0*	*7.1*	1.2
1981								
January	354.6	328.1	307.3	20.8	26.5	*7.5*	*8.2*	*
February	362.4	334.9	312.8	22.1	27.5	*7.6*	*8.0*	*1.0*
March	371.3	345.7	319.2	26.5	25.6	*6.9*	*7.7*	*
April	385.0	361.5	328.9	32.6	23.5	*6.1*	*7.0*	*
May	390.4	368.2	334.6	33.6	22.2	*5.7*	*7.1*	*.4*
June	*405.7*	*380.4*	*342.1*	*38.3*	*25.3*	*6.2*	*7.3*	*.4*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*

2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

** Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

Table II
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent 1/* County	State	
1979								
January	33.3	30.2	29.4	.8	3.1	*9.4*	*7.9*	*
February	33.1	30.4	29.5	.9	2.7	*8.3*	*7.1*	*
March	33.5	31.0	29.9	1.1	2.5	*7.5*	*6.4*	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.4	2.2	*6.5*	*5.6*	*
May	34.4	32.5	31.1	1.4	1.9	*5.5*	*4.6*	*
June	35.1	32.9	31.3	1.6	2.2	*6.2*	*5.2*	*
July	35.0	32.9	31.2	1.7	2.1	*6.0*	*4.5*	*
August	35.0	33.1	31.3	1.8	1.9	*5.5*	*4.0*	*
September	34.5	32.8	31.4	1.4	1.7	*4.6*	*3.6*	*
October	33.3	31.9	30.7	1.2	1.4	*4.1*	*3.8*	*
November	33.2	31.4	30.4	1.0	1.8	*5.4*	*4.3*	*
December	32.9	31.0	30.1	.9	1.9	*5.7*	*5.2*	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	33.0	30.5	29.7	.8	2.5	*7.7*	*7.0*	*
February	33.0	30.7	29.8	.9	2.3	*7.0*	*6.7*	*
March	33.7	31.5	30.4	1.1	2.2	*6.6*	*6.5*	*
April	33.5	31.4	30.1	1.3	2.1	*6.3*	*6.4*	*
May	34.4	32.4	31.0	1.4	2.0	*5.6*	*5.2*	.2
June	34.8	32.1	30.5	1.6	2.7	*7.7*	*6.0*	.2
July	35.3	32.6	30.9	1.7	2.7	*7.8*	*6.2*	.5
August	35.5	33.1	31.3	1.8	2.4	*6.8*	*5.4*	.4
September	34.8	32.7	31.5	1.2	2.1	*6.0*	*4.8*	.4
October	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.2	2.3	*6.9*	*5.0*	*
November	34.1	31.7	30.7	1.0	2.4	*7.0*	*5.5*	*
December	34.0	31.5	30.5	1.0	2.5	*7.3*	*6.2*	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.0*	.2
1981								
January	33.5	30.8	30.0	.8	2.7	*8.1*	*7.5*	*
February	34.2	31.3	30.4	.9	2.9	*8.5*	*7.6*	*
March	34.7	32.1	31.1	1.0	2.6	*7.6*	*6.9*	*
April	35.7	33.1	31.8	1.3	2.6	*7.3*	*6.1*	*
May	35.6	33.2	31.9	1.3	2.4	*6.8*	*5.7*	*
June	*35.8*	*32.9*	*31.4*	*1.5*	*2.9*	*8.2*	*6.2*	*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*
* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table III
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent1/* County	State	
1979								
January	53.2	50.0	49.0	1.0	3.2	6.0	7.9	*
February	53.0	50.3	49.2	1.1	2.7	5.1	7.1	*
March	53.0	50.6	49.3	1.3	2.4	4.5	6.4	*
April	54.2	52.1	50.5	1.6	2.1	3.8	5.6	*
May	54.8	53.1	51.5	1.6	1.7	3.1	4.6	*
June	57.2	55.0	53.2	1.8	2.2	3.8	5.2	*
July	56.0	54.2	52.2	2.0	1.8	3.2	4.5	*
August	57.0	55.3	53.2	2.1	1.7	3.0	4.0	*
September	56.3	54.8	53.2	1.6	1.5	2.6	3.6	*
October	55.7	54.2	52.8	1.4	1.5	2.6	3.8	*
November	55.7	54.0	52.8	1.2	1.7	3.1	4.3	*
December	55.3	53.3	52.3	1.0	2.0	3.7	5.2	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	54.9	52.0	51.0	1.0	2.9	5.3	7.0	.6
February	55.1	52.2	51.2	1.0	2.9	5.3	6.7	.7
March	55.4	52.5	51.3	1.2	2.9	5.3	6.5	.3
April	55.5	53.0	51.5	1.5	2.5	4.4	6.4	*
May	56.1	54.0	52.4	1.6	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	58.5	55.6	53.8	1.8	2.9	5.0	6.0	*
July	57.8	54.9	53.0	1.9	2.9	5.0	6.2	*
August	58.2	55.6	53.5	2.1	2.6	4.5	5.4	*
September	57.7	55.4	54.0	1.4	2.3	4.0	4.8	*
October	57.2	55.0	53.6	1.4	2.2	3.8	5.0	*
November	57.0	54.8	53.6	1.2	2.2	3.8	5.5	*
December	57.3	54.7	53.7	1.0	2.6	4.5	6.2	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	4.6	6.0	.1
1981								
January	55.8	52.7	51.8	.9	3.1	5.6	7.5	*
February	57.1	53.8	52.8	1.0	3.3	5.8	7.6	*
March	57.7	54.6	53.4	1.2	3.0	5.2	6.9	*
April	58.7	56.1	54.6	1.5	2.6	4.4	6.1	*
May	58.8	56.4	54.9	1.5	2.4	4.2	5.7	*
June	*61.3*	*58.1*	*56.3*	*1.8*	*3.2*	*5.3*	*6.2*	*
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*
** Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV
MONTANA
Statewide Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1981	May 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	390.4	385.0	377.1	5.4	13.3
EMPLOYED PERSONS	368.2	361.5	357.6	6.7	10.6
Persons Employed in Agriculture	33.6	32.6	34.4	1.0	-.8
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	22.2	23.5	19.5	-1.3	2.7
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*5.7*	*6.1*	*5.2*	*.4*	*-.5*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*6.3*	*5.9*	*5.9*	*.4*	*-.4*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	284.2	281.5	283.0	2.7	1.2
MANUFACTURING	23.0	22.8	22.4	.2	.6
Durable Goods	14.0	14.0	13.5	0	.5
24 Lumber and Wood Products	9.2	9.1	7.1	.1	2.1
33 Primary Metal Industries	1.9	1.9	3.1	0	-1.2
Other Durable Goods	2.9	2.9	3.3	0	-.4
Nondurable Goods	9.0	8.8	8.8	.2	.2
20 Food and Kindred Products	3.8	3.7	3.9	.1	-.1
27 Printing and Publishing	2.4	2.3	2.2	.1	.2
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	1.1	1.0	1.0	.1	.1
Other Nondurable Goods	1.7	1.8	1.7	-.1	0
MINING	8.7	8.7	8.5	0	.2
10 Metal Mining	1.6	1.6	2.4	0	-.8
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Non-Metal Mining	2.3	2.3	2.4	0	-.1
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	4.8	4.8	3.6	0	.8
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	14.3	13.8	14.9	.5	-.6
15 General Building Contractors	4.9	4.3	4.9	.6	0
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	4.2	4.2	4.1	0	.1
17 Special Trade Contractors	5.2	5.3	5.9	-.1	-.7
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.7	23.5	23.1	.2	.6
40 Railroad Transportation	7.7	7.7	7.1	0	.6
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	6.4	6.2	6.6	.2	-.2
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	9.6	9.6	9.5	0	.1
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	72.4	71.7	73.1	.7	-.7
Wholesale Trade	17.7	18.0	17.4	-.3	.3
Retail Trade	54.7	53.7	55.7	1.0	-1.0
53 & 56 General Merchandise, Apparel, Accessories	7.8	7.7	8.2	.1	-.4
54 Food Stores	7.5	7.6	7.8	-.1	-.3
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.8	7.7	8.0	.1	-.2
58 Eating and Drinking Places	20.7	19.9	20.8	.8	-.1
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	10.8	10.7	10.9	.1	-.1
FINANCE, INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE	12.8	12.7	12.8	.1	0
SERVICES	57.8	57.2	55.9	.6	1.9
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	7.0	6.8	6.5	.2	.5
72 Personal Services	2.8	2.8	2.7	0	.1
80 Medical and other Health Services	18.7	18.7	18.0	0	.7
Other Services	29.3	28.8	28.7	.5	.6
GOVERNMENT	71.6	71.2	72.3	.4	-.7
91 Federal Government	13.9	13.3	13.7	.6	.2
92 State Colleges and Universities	7.9	7.9	8.3	0	-.4
92 Other State Government	10.4	10.6	10.6	-.2	-.2
93 Local Education	25.0	25.1	25.2	-.1	-.2
93 Other Local Government	14.3	14.2	14.4	.1	-.1

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[1] *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.*

[2] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.

RESIDENCE DATA
(*Establishment Data in italics*)

TABLE V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1981	May 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS 1/	35.6	35.7	34.4	-.1	1.2
EMPLOYED PERSONS	33.2	33.1	32.4	.1	.8
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.3	1.3	1.4	0	.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.4	2.6	2.0	-.2	.4
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted 2/	*6.8*	*7.3*	*5.6*	*-.5*	*1.2*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted 2/	*7.8*	*7.6*	*6.7*	*.2*	*1.1*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	29.5	29.5	29.8	0	-.3
Manufacturing	1.3	1.3	1.7	0	-.4
Contract Construction	1.7	1.7	1.8	0	-.1
Transportation and Public Utilities	1.9	1.8	1.9	.1	0
Trade	9.5	9.5	9.5	0	0
Wholesale Trade	2.9	3.0	2.8	-.1	.1
Retail Trade	6.5	6.5	6.7	0	-.2
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.0	2.0	2.1	0	-.1
Services and Mining	7.0	7.1	7.1	-.1	-.1
Government	6.1	6.1	5.8	0	.3
Federal Government	1.8	1.8	1.8	0	0
State and Local Government	4.3	4.3	4.0	0	.3

1/ Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.

2/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
Current month preliminary

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

TABLE VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	May 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Net Changes to Current Month from: Apr. 1981	Net Changes to Current Month from: May 1980
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE - PERSONS[1]	58.8	58.7	56.1	.1	2.7
EMPLOYED PERSONS	56.4	56.1	54.0	.3	2.4
Persons Employed in Agriculture	1.5	1.5	1.6	0	-.1
UNEMPLOYED PERSONS	2.4	2.6	2.1	-.2	.3
Percent of Labor Force, Unadjusted[2]	*4.2*	*4.4*	*3.8*	*-.2*	*.4*
Percent of Labor Force, Seasonally Adjusted[2]	*4.8*	*4.5*	*4.5*	*.3*	*.3*
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY JOBS (Establishment Data)	47.7	47.5	47.4	.2	.3
Manufacturing	4.1	4.0	4.1	.1	0
Contract Construction	2.6	2.5	2.4	.1	.2
Transportation and Public Utilties	4.9	4.9	4.8	0	.1
Trade	15.7	15.7	16.0	0	-.3
Wholesale Trade	5.7	5.7	5.5	0	.2
Retail Trade	9.9	9.9	10.4	0	-.5
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	2.3	2.2	2.3	.1	0
Services and Mining	10.3	10.2	10.1	.1	.2
Government	7.7	8.0	7.7	-.3	0
Federal Government	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	0
State and Local Government	6.2	6.4	6.2	-.2	0

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[1] *Estimates based on National Household Sample, Census and Other Relationships; includes self-employed, unpaid family, and domestic workers.*

[2] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
Current month preliminary

Revised to 1980 Benchmarks

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1981	May 1981
STATEWIDE	371.3	385.0	390.4	345.7	361.5	368.2	25.6	23.5	22.2	*6.9*	*6.1*	*5.7*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	34.7	35.7	35.6	32.1	33.1	33.2	2.6	2.6	2.4	*7.6*	*7.3*	*6.8*
BILLINGS SMSA	57.6	58.7	58.8	54.6	56.1	56.4	3.0	2.6	2.4	*5.2*	*4.4*	*4.2*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	279.0	290.6	296.0	259.1	272.3	278.7	19.9	18.3	17.3	*7.2*	*6.3*	*5.8*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	34.6	35.5	36.3	31.9	32.8	33.9	2.7	2.7	2.4	*7.7*	*7.5*	*6.7*
BOZEMAN	25.9	26.8	26.8	24.3	25.2	25.5	1.6	1.6	1.3	*6.2*	*5.8*	*4.8*
GLASGOW	17.0	18.2	18.8	16.1	17.5	18.1	.9	.7	.7	*5.1*	*3.9*	*3.9*
GLENDIVE	15.8	16.8	17.2	15.4	16.4	16.8	.4	.4	.4	*2.7*	*2.4*	*2.3*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	13.3	14.0	14.5	12.6	13.4	13.8	.7	.6	.7	*5.4*	*4.3*	*4.9*
HAVRE	12.8	13.5	13.8	12.0	12.8	13.1	.8	.7	.7	*5.9*	*5.1*	*5.1*
HELENA	28.4	29.2	29.9	27.0	27.9	28.5	1.4	1.3	1.4	*5.1*	*4.5*	*4.5*
KALISPELL	37.1	37.9	38.1	32.6	33.8	34.3	4.5	4.1	3.8	*12.1*	*10.8*	*9.8*
LEWISTOWN	10.3	11.0	11.3	9.8	10.6	10.9	.5	.4	.4	*4.7*	*3.2*	*3.3*
MILES CITY	16.7	17.5	18.1	15.9	16.8	17.5	.8	.7	.6	*4.7*	*3.7*	*3.5*
MISSOULA	49.9	51.2	51.6	45.2	46.8	47.7	4.7	4.4	3.9	*9.4*	*8.6*	*7.6*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	17.2	18.9	19.5	16.2	18.0	18.5	1.0	.9	1.0	*6.0*	*4.8*	*5.0*

[1/] *A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.*

[2/] *Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.*

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	May 1981	May 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	May 1981	May 1980	Percent Change 1980-1981	May 1981	May 1980	Net Change 1980-1981	May 1981	May 1980	Net Change 1980-1981
STATEWIDE	390.4	377.1	*3.5*	368.2	357.6	*3.0*	22.2	19.5	*2.7*	5.7	5.2	*.5*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35.6	34.3	*3.8*	33.2	32.4	*2.5*	2.4	1.9	*.5*	6.8	5.6	*1.2*
BILLINGS SMSA	58.8	56.1	*4.8*	56.4	54.0	*4.4*	2.4	2.1	*.3*	4.2	3.8	*.4*
BALANCE OF STATE[2]	296.0	287.6	*3.2*	278.7	271.2	*2.8*	17.3	15.5	*1.8*	5.8	5.4	*.4*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	36.3	35.0	*3.7*	33.9	33.3	*1.8*	2.4	1.7	*.7*	6.7	5.0	*1.7*
BOZEMAN	26.8	27.0	*-.7*	25.5	25.6	*-.4*	1.3	1.4	*-.1*	4.8	5.1	*-.3*
GLASGOW	18.8	17.5	*7.4*	18.1	17.0	*6.5*	.7	.5	*.2*	3.9	2.8	*.9*
GLENDIVE	17.2	16.2	*6.2*	16.8	15.9	*5.7*	.4	.3	*.1*	2.3	2.0	*.3*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	14.5	14.1	*2.8*	13.8	13.6	*1.5*	.7	.5	*.2*	4.9	3.5	*1.4*
HAVRE	13.8	13.3	*3.8*	13.1	12.7	*3.1*	.7	.6	*.1*	5.1	4.6	*.5*
HELENA	29.9	28.7	*4.2*	28.5	27.5	*3.6*	1.4	1.2	*.2*	4.5	4.3	*.2*
KALISPELL	38.1	38.1	*0*	34.3	34.2	*.3*	3.8	3.9	*-.1*	9.8	10.2	*-.4*
LEWISTOWN	11.3	11.4	*-.9*	10.9	11.0	*-.9*	.4	.4	*0*	3.3	3.9	*-.6*
MILES CITY	18.1	17.1	*5.8*	17.5	16.5	*6.1*	.6	.6	*0*	3.5	3.6	*-.1*
MISSOULA	51.6	49.5	*4.2*	47.7	46.0	*3.7*	3.9	3.5	*.4*	7.6	7.0	*.6*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	19.5	18.7	*4.3*	18.5	17.9	*3.3*	1.0	.8	*.2*	5.0	4.1	*.9*

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[1] *A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on "New Business Firms" page. Map inside back cover.*

[2] *Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.*

TABLE IX-A

April 1981

(Revised)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	385000	361453	23547	6.1
CASCADE	35746	33129	2617	7.3
YELLOWSTONE	58658	56070	2588	4.4
BEAVERHEAD	4246	4087	159	3.7
BIG HORN	6015	5692	323	5.4
BLAINE	3112	2917	195	6.3
BROADWATER	1338	1274	64	4.8
CARBON	3522	3357	165	4.7
CARTER	884	874	10	1.1
CHOUTEAU	3196	3150	46	1.4
CUSTER	6532	6289	243	3.7
DANIELS	1493	1468	25	1.7
DAWSON	6177	6009	168	2.7
DEER LODGE	4759	3911	848	17.8
FALLON	2481	2446	35	1.4
FERGUS	5958	5739	219	3.7
FLATHEAD	23117	20808	2309	10.0
GALLATIN	19676	18653	1023	5.2
GARFIELD	881	874	7	.8
GLACIER	5951	5348	603	10.1
GOLDEN VALLEY	415	406	9	2.2
GRANITE	1150	1066	84	7.3
HILL	9120	8651	469	5.1
JEFFERSON	2484	2348	136	5.5
JUDITH BASIN	1176	1151	25	2.1
LAKE	8018	7499	519	6.5
LEWIS AND CLARK	25409	24285	1124	4.4
LIBERTY	1267	1240	27	2.1
LINCOLN	6746	5488	1258	18.6
MC CONE	1227	1211	16	1.3
MADISON	2512	2405	107	4.3
MEAGHER	1119	1059	60	5.4
MINERAL	1877	1575	202	10.8
MISSOULA	37489	34512	2977	7.9
MUSSELSHELL	1814	1759	55	3.0
PARK	6001	5527	474	7.9
PETROLEUM	319	309	10	3.1
PHILLIPS	3259	3145	114	3.5
PONDERA	3750	3656	94	2.5
POWDER RIVER	1277	1258	19	1.5
POWELL	3814	3533	281	7.4
PRAIRIE	944	912	32	3.4
RAVALLI	7919	7114	805	10.2
RICHLAND	6825	6656	169	2.5
ROOSEVELT	5303	5056	247	4.7
ROSEBUD	5861	5521	340	5.8
SANDERS	3913	3500	413	10.6
SHERIDAN	3224	3198	26	.8
SILVER BOW	19009	17838	1171	6.2
STILLWATER	2377	2305	72	3.0
SWEET GRASS	2118	2081	37	1.7
TETON	2944	2859	85	2.9
TOOLE	3092	3008	84	2.7
TREASURE	471	464	7	1.5
VALLEY	4954	4667	297	6.0
WHEATLAND	1295	1257	38	2.9
WIBAUX	756	739	17	2.2

TABLE IX-B

May 1981

(Preliminary)

MONTANA MONTHLY LABOR FORCE BY COUNTY
CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

COUNTY	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	PERCENT RATE
STATEWIDE	390387	368212	22175	5.7
CASCADE	35578	33162	2416	6.8
YELLOWSTONE	58839	56374	2465	4.2
BEAVERHEAD	4354	4217	137	3.1
BIG HORN	6451	5986	465	7.2
BLAINE	3138	2936	202	6.4
BROADWATER	1424	1353	71	5.0
CARBON	3534	3390	144	4.1
CARTER	904	891	13	1.4
CHOUTEAU	3312	3239	73	2.2
CUSTER	6826	6590	236	3.5
DANIELS	1532	1513	19	1.2
DAWSON	6313	6151	162	2.6
DEER LODGE	4641	3938	703	15.1
FALLON	2598	2530	68	2.6
FERGUS	6130	5891	239	3.9
FLATHEAD	23031	20863	2168	9.4
GALLATIN	19659	18799	860	4.4
GARFIELD	882	876	6	.7
GLACIER	6204	5553	651	10.5
GOLDEN VALLEY	431	421	10	2.3
GRANITE	1221	1102	119	9.7
HILL	9292	8817	475	5.1
JEFFERSON	2609	2455	154	5.9
JUDITH BASIN	1227	1204	23	1.9
LAKE	8120	7606	514	6.3
LEWIS AND CLARK	25837	24718	1119	4.3
LIBERTY	1339	1311	28	2.1
LINCOLN	6935	5867	1068	15.4
MC CONE	1263	1245	18	1.4
MADISON	2625	2525	100	3.8
MEAGHER	1086	1039	47	4.3
MINERAL	1808	1642	166	9.2
MISSOULA	37799	35109	2690	7.1
MUSSELSHELL	1866	1822	44	2.4
PARK	6055	5668	387	6.4
PETROLEUM	325	315	10	3.1
PHILLIPS	3308	3188	120	3.6
PONDERA	3806	3713	93	2.4
POWDER RIVER	1324	1306	18	1.4
POWELL	3813	3590	223	5.8
PRAIRIE	979	944	35	3.6
RAVALLI	8122	7377	745	9.2
RICHLAND	6964	6813	151	2.2
ROOSEVELT	5512	5258	254	4.6
ROSEBUD	5990	5708	282	4.7
SANDERS	3931	3599	332	8.4
SHERIDAN	3302	3274	28	.8
SILVER BOW	19683	18514	1169	5.9
STILLWATER	2411	2353	58	2.4
SWEET GRASS	2123	2081	42	2.0
TETON	3001	2931	70	2.3
TOOLE	3162	3077	85	2.7
TREASURE	495	481	14	2.8
VALLEY	5141	4831	310	6.0
WHEATLAND	1338	1288	50	3.7
WIBAUX	794	768	26	3.3

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:		Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
	May 1981 1/	Apr. 1981	May 1980	Apr. 1981	May 1980	May 1981		Apr. 1981	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	132.7	132.5	129.5	.2	3.2	284.2	46.7%	281.5	47.1%
Manufacturing	2.9	2.8	2.6	.1	.3	23.0	12.7%	22.8	12.5%
Mining	.5	.5	.5	0	0	8.7	5.3%	8.7	5.3%
Contract Construction	1.5	1.5	1.5	0	.1	14.3	10.4%	13.8	10.9%
Transportation & Public Utilities .	4.3	4.3	4.4	0	-.1	23.7	18.2%	23.5	18.3%
Wholesale & Retail Trade	35.4	35.4	36.0	0	-.6	72.4	48.9%	71.7	49.4%
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	8.4	8.4	8.4	0	0	12.8	65.9%	12.7	65.9%
Services	35.2	35.2	34.1	0	1.1	57.8	60.9%	57.2	61.6%
Government2/	44.5	44.4	42.1	.1	2.4	71.6	62.2%	71.2	62.5%

1/ *Current month preliminary.* *Revised to 1980 Benchmark.* *Establishment Series began January 1974.*

2/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.*

Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division

TABLE XI

MONTANA FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

1980

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Ann. Avg.
Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	133.0	132.9	130.9	129.4	129.5	134.0	128.7	129.8	130.5	132.6	133.2	133.1	131.5
Manufacturing..................	3.4	3.3	3.3	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.7	2.7	2.7	3.0	3.0	3.0	2.9
Mining.........................	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction..........	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.4	1.5	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4	4.4
Wholesale & Retail Trade.......	36.5	36.5	35.6	35.7	36.0	35.9	36.2	36.1	35.9	35.9	36.1	36.7	36.1
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.4	8.5	8.5	8.5	8.4	8.3	8.4	8.4
Services.......................	36.2	36.2	34.3	34.5	34.1	37.2	37.2	34.2	34.1	34.5	34.7	34.7	35.2
Government.....................	42.5	42.5	43.1	41.9	42.1	43.3	37.6	41.7	42.9	43.8	44.6	43.9	42.5

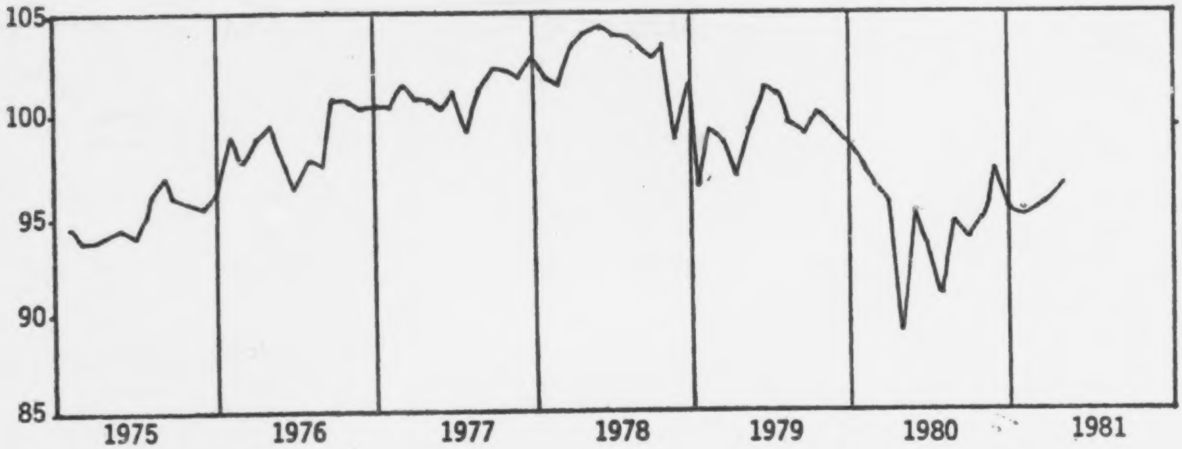
1981

Non-agricultural Wage & Salary.	131.7	132.7	132.7	132.5	132.7
Manufacturing..................	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9
Mining.........................	.5	.5	.5	.5	.5
Contract Construction..........	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Transport. & Public Utilities..	4.4	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
Wholesale & Retail Trade.......	35.5	35.4	35.4	35.4	35.4
Finance, Ins., & Real Estate...	8.4	8.3	8.3	8.4	8.4
Services.......................	34.5	35.5	35.3	35.2	35.2
Government.....................	44.0	44.6	44.6	44.4	44.5

1/ *Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.* *Establishment Series began January, 1974.* *Revised to 1980 Benchmark.*

ECONOMIC INDICATORS

COMPOSITE INDEX OF SIX ECONOMIC INDICATORS



1972 = 100

Monthly Figures of Composite Index

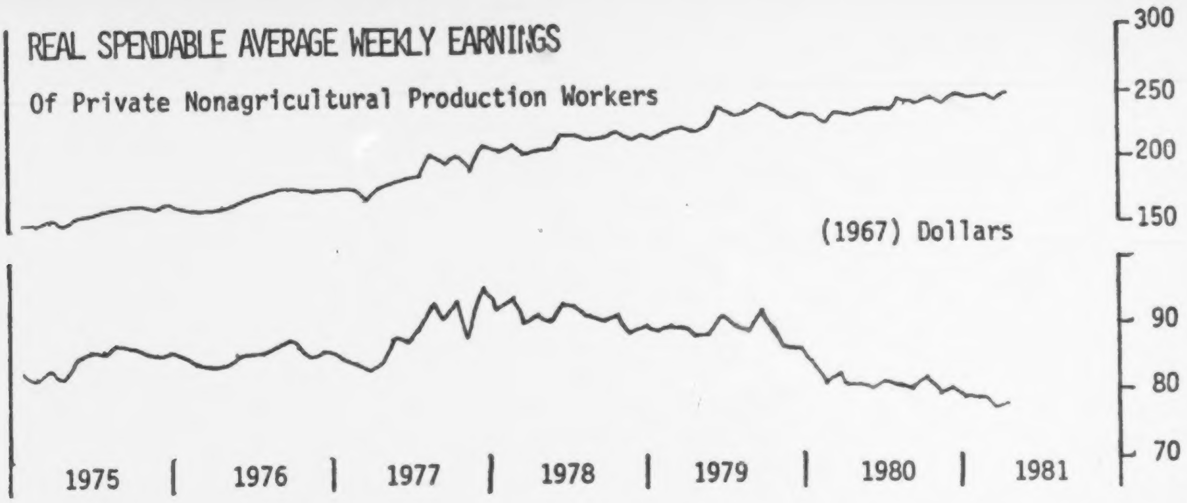
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
January	94.8	99.1	100.4	101.9	96.8	97.2	95.1
February	94.1	97.9	101.6	101.7	99.3	96.2	95.4
March	94.2	98.6	100.8	103.5	98.9	95.4	95.9
April	94.4	99.5	100.8	104.2	97.2	88.6	96.8
May	94.6	98.4	100.4	104.3	99.4	94.3	
June	96.5	96.8	101.1	104.0	101.3	92.6	
July	96.3	98.0	99.4	103.8	101.0	90.4	
August	97.7	97.9	101.2	103.2	99.8	93.9	
September	96.3	100.8	102.3	102.8	99.6	93.3	
October	96.1	100.7	102.2	103.6	100.5	95.0	
November	95.8	100.5	101.9	99.0	99.8	97.4	
December	96.5	100.5	102.9	101.5	98.7	95.5	

MONTANA'S COMPOSITE INDEX

A considerable increase is noted in Montana's composite index from March to April. A composite index of 96.8 for April is much higher than April, 1980 which figured at 88.6. The reason for the increase was that there was only one component of the composite index recording negative movement. Building Permits dropped from 649 in March to 315 in April. Another big factor was that the manufacturing accession rate rose from 2.0 to 6.5 in April. The other components of the index showed little, if any change.

Components of Composite Index:

Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits; and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.



	Apr. 1981	Mar. 1981	Apr. 1980
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	248.29	244.84	232.23
3/ Taxes Withheld	41.65	40.68	35.88
Spendable Earnings	206.63	204.17	196.35
Adjustment for Price Changes since 1967	129.18	127.18	115.41
Real Spendable Earnings	77.45	76.99	80.94

	1) Average Weekly Earnings			2) Real Spendable Earnings		
	1981	1980	1979	1981	1980	1979
January	245.28	232.60	215.42	78.44	84.36	89.20
Febuary	247.52	224.93	219.57	78.20	80.79	89.60
March	244.84	234.24	221.43	76.99	82.44	89.29
April	248.29	232.23	220.68	77.45	80.94	88.10
May		234.15	225.42		80.67	88.52
June		234.97	236.99		80.02	91.26
July		238.82	233.87		81.08	89.41
August		239.47	234.99		80.75	88.73
September		241.60	238.74		80.63	91.96
October		246.66	236.90		81.37	89.02
November		241.89	230.62		79.29	86.22
December		247.75	233.24			86.12

Real Spendable Earnings

After dropping considerably in March, real spendable earnings rose in April to $77.45. This compares to $76.99 in March and $80.94 in April, 1980. Gross average weekly earnings are as high as ever, but inflation continues to eat a big chunk from that amount. The consumer price index, which is used as a measure of inflation, has been rising at a slower rate than the same period one year ago. The increase in the consumer price index from March to April was 0.6%.

1/ Average Weekly earnings of total private nonagricultrual production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

3/ Taxes computed on family with four exemptions.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

Table XII

RESIDENCE DATA

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT Total	EMPLOYMENT Non-Ag	EMPLOYMENT Agri.	UNEMPLOYMENT Total	UNEMPLOYMENT Percent[1/] Montana	UNEMPLOYMENT Percent[1/] U. S.	Labor Management Dispute[2/]
1979								
January	369.7	347.0	314.4	32.6	22.7	6.1	5.8	*
February	369.0	348.3	315.7	32.6	20.9	5.6	5.7	1.1
March	367.1	347.4	314.9	32.5	19.7	5.4	5.7	*
April	368.7	348.7	316.3	32.4	20.0	5.4	5.8	*
May	370.5	351.1	318.8	32.3	19.4	5.2	5.8	.1
June	372.7	354.0	321.8	32.2	18.7	5.0	5.7	.1
July	368.0	349.9	317.8	32.1	18.1	4.9	5.7	*
August	368.1	350.6	318.6	32.0	17.5	4.8	5.9	.1
September	370.2	352.6	320.6	32.0	17.6	4.8	5.8	*
October	371.9	354.2	322.2	32.0	17.7	4.8	5.9	*
November	371.9	354.4	322.4	32.0	17.5	4.7	5.8	*
December	372.4	353.8	321.8	32.0	18.6	5.0	5.9	*
Avg.	370.0	351.0	318.8	32.2	19.0	5.1	5.8	.1
1980								
January	375.7	355.8	323.8	32.0	19.9	5.3	6.2	.7
February	376.1	356.3	324.4	31.9	19.8	5.3	6.2	1.1
March	376.5	355.9	324.2	31.7	20.6	5.8	6.3	.7
April	375.2	352.2	320.7	31.5	23.0	6.1	6.9	.3
May	374.4	352.5	321.1	31.4	21.9	5.9	7.6	.2
June	376.0	353.9	322.7	31.2	22.1	5.9	7.5	.2
July	370.0	345.4	314.3	31.1	24.6	6.7	7.6	2.7
August	370.9	348.0	317.0	31.0	22.9	6.2	7.6	2.6
September	370.7	348.2	317.0	31.2	22.5	6.1	7.4	3.1
October	372.9	350.6	319.3	31.3	22.3	6.0	7.6	1.3
November	375.2	353.1	321.8	31.3	22.1	5.9	7.5	1.3
December	374.6	352.2	320.8	31.4	22.4	6.0	7.4	*
Avg.	374.0	352.0	320.6	31.4	22.0	6.0	7.1	1.2
1981								
January	375.5	354.1	322.7	31.4	21.4	5.7	7.4	*
February	382.0	358.5	327.2	31.3	23.5	6.2	7.3	1.0
March	384.8	362.1	331.1	31.0	22.7	5.9	7.3	*
April	389.5	366.5	335.8	30.7	23.0	5.9	7.3	*
May	387.6	363.1	332.5	30.6	24.5	6.3	7.6	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

[1/] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

[2/] *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

CURRENT POPULATION SURVEY DATA

Table XIII
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent1/* County	*Percent1/* State	
1979								
January	34.4	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.6	*7.6*	*6.1*	*
February	34.5	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.5	*7.3*	*5.6*	*
March	34.1	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.3	*6.8*	*5.4*	*
April	34.3	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.3	*6.8*	*5.4*	*
May	34.2	32.0	30.7	1.3	2.2	*6.6*	*5.2*	*
June	33.8	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.0	*5.8*	*5.0*	*
July	34.0	31.9	30.6	1.3	2.1	*6.1*	*4.9*	*
August	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.1*	*4.8*	*
September	33.7	31.8	30.5	1.3	1.9	*5.7*	*4.8*	*
October	33.3	31.7	30.4	1.3	1.6	*4.7*	*4.8*	*
November	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	*5.6*	*4.7*	*
December	33.5	31.6	30.3	1.3	1.9	*5.6*	*5.0*	*
Avg.	33.9	31.8	30.5	1.3	2.1	*6.2*	*5.1*	*
1980								
January	34.1	32.1	30.8	1.3	2.0	*5.9*	*5.3*	*
February	34.5	32.4	31.1	1.3	2.1	*6.0*	*5.3*	*
March	34.4	32.3	31.0	1.3	2.1	*6.0*	*5.5*	*
April	33.9	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.2	*6.6*	*6.1*	*
May	34.2	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.3	*6.7*	*5.9*	.2
June	33.5	31.0	29.6	1.2	2.5	*7.5*	*5.9*	.2
July	34.4	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.7	*7.9*	*6.7*	.5
August	34.3	31.7	30.3	1.2	2.6	*7.4*	*6.2*	.4
September	34.0	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.1*	.4
October	34.2	31.6	30.2	1.2	2.6	*7.5*	*6.0*	*
November	34.4	31.9	30.5	1.2	2.5	*7.2*	*5.9*	*
December	34.5	32.0	30.6	1.2	2.5	*7.2*	*6.0*	*
Avg.	34.2	31.8	30.6	1.2	2.4	*6.9*	*6.0*	.2
1981								
January	34.5	32.3	31.1	1.2	2.2	*6.3*	*5.7*	*
February	35.6	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.7	*7.4*	*6.2*	*
March	35.4	32.9	31.7	1.2	2.5	*7.0*	*5.9*	*
April	36.2	33.5	32.3	1.2	2.7	*7.6*	*5.9*	*
May	*35.4*	*32.6*	*31.4*	*1.2*	*2.8*	*7.8*	*6.3*	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment.
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

CURRENT POPULATION
SURVEY DATA

RESIDENCE DATA

Table XIV
BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent*[1]		
						County	State	
1979								
January	54.7	52.2	50.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	6.1	*
February	54.7	52.5	51.0	1.5	2.2	4.1	5.6	*
March	54.4	52.3	50.8	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.4	*
April	55.0	52.9	51.4	1.5	2.1	3.9	5.4	*
May	55.2	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.1	3.8	5.2	*
June	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	3.5	5.0	*
July	55.0	53.1	51.6	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.9	*
August	55.6	53.7	52.2	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.8	*
September	55.4	53.5	52.0	1.5	1.9	3.3	4.8	*
October	55.3	53.4	51.9	1.5	1.9	3.4	4.8	*
November	55.7	53.7	52.2	1.5	2.0	3.6	4.7	*
December	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.6	5.0	*
Avg.	55.1	53.1	51.6	1.5	2.0	3.7	5.1	*
1980								
January	56.3	54.1	52.6	1.5	2.2	3.9	5.3	.6
February	56.8	54.3	52.8	1.5	2.5	4.4	5.3	.7
March	56.7	54.2	52.7	1.5	2.5	4.5	5.5	.3
April	56.3	53.8	52.4	1.4	2.5	4.5	6.1	*
May	56.5	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.5	4.5	5.9	*
June	56.7	54.0	52.6	1.4	2.7	4.7	5.9	*
July	56.9	53.9	52.5	1.4	3.0	5.3	6.7	*
August	56.7	53.9	52.5	1.4	2.8	4.9	6.2	*
September	56.8	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.7	4.8	6.1	*
October	56.9	54.3	52.9	1.4	2.6	4.5	6.0	*
November	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.3	5.9	*
December	57.1	54.6	53.2	1.4	2.5	4.4	6.0	*
Avg.	56.7	54.1	52.7	1.4	2.6	4.6	6.0	.1
1981								
January	57.2	54.8	53.4	1.4	2.4	4.2	5.7	*
February	58.8	55.9	54.5	1.4	2.9	4.8	6.2	*
March	58.9	56.3	54.9	1.4	2.6	4.4	5.9	*
April	59.5	56.8	55.4	1.4	2.7	4.5	5.9	*
May	59.2	56.3	54.9	1.4	2.9	4.8	6.3	*
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

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[1] *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers*

[2] *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1980 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	May 1981	April 1981	May 1980	May 1981	April 1981	May 1980	May 1981	April 1981	May 1980
TOTAL PRIVATE	245.20	248.29	234.15	35.9	36.3	36.7	6.83	6.84	6.38
MANUFACTURING	367.52	369.55	381.00	40.7	40.7	43.1	9.03	9.08	8.84
Durable Goods	363.13	361.82	397.34	39.6	39.5	44.1	9.17	9.16	9.01
Primary Metal Industries	437.17	437.17	417.99	36.1	36.1	41.1	12.11	12.11	10.17
Nondurable Goods	375.78	383.56	355.68	42.8	43.0	41.6	8.78	8.92	8.56
Food and Kindred Products	307.96	312.06	306.91	41.9	42.4	45.2	7.35	7.36	6.79
MINING	464.54	455.51	408.88	41.7	41.0	47.6	11.14	11.11	8.59
Metal Mining	515.39	515.39	396.01	41.1	41.1	36.6	12.54	12.54	10.82
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	366.42	394.13	383.72	36.1	39.1	37.4	10.15	10.08	10.26
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	365.25	362.32	336.23	43.9	43.6	42.4	8.32	8.31	7.93
Communications, Electric Gas, Sanitary Services	391.78	389.50	363.34	50.1	50.0	49.3	7.82	7.79	7.37
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	197.80	202.82	196.17	31.8	32.4	34.3	6.22	6.26	5.69
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	154.98	158.30	157.45	36.9	36.9	33.5	4.20	4.29	4.70
SERVICES	157.88	159.50	140.68	34.1	34.3	33.9	4.63	4.65	4.15

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).

ESTABLISHMENT DATA

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

	ACCESSION RATES									SEPARATION RATES								
	Total			New Hires			Recalls			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.	Apr.	Mar.	Apr.
MANUFACTURING	6.7	1.3	1.6	1.0	0.8	0.9	5.7	0.4	0.6	2.3	2.3	19.7	1.4	0.7	0.8	0.4	1.4	18.6
Durable Goods	9.9	1.2	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.3	9.2	0.6	0.8	1.9	3.1	30.7	0.9	0.5	0.4	0.5	2.4	30.1
Primary Metal Industries	1.4	0.3	1.7	0.3	0.0	0.1	1.2	0.3	1.2	0.6	0.6	1.0	0.3	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.1
Nondurable Goods	1.6	1.5	2.3	1.5	1.4	2.0	0.1	0.1	0.3	3.0	1.1	2.7	2.0	0.9	1.4	0.2	0.0	0.8
MINING	3.0	3.9	7.2	2.1	3.6	6.0	0.0	0.0	0.8	8.2	6.1	6.7	7.2	4.6	1.9	0.0	1.2	0.2
Metal Mining	1.1	1.4	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.3	4.8	7.0	2.0	0.7	0.4	0.2	0.1	5.0	0.0

* *Less than .05.*

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggrigate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year. Foreign corporation classification has been added and are considered established corporations from other states registered to do business in Montana. County tabulation is not possible, only industry structure is known.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	May 1981	May 1980	Year to Date 1981	Year to Date 1980
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	25	17	157	146
MINING	73	32	316	138
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	67	26	264	214
MANUFACTURING	22	10	118	93
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	37	11	147	99
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	140	76	714	533
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	70	28	354	202
SERVICES	139	83	817	664
NON-PROFIT SERVICES	(37)	(21)	(192)	(160)
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	14	3	73	65
STATE TOTAL	587	286	2960	2154

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
Areas	May 1981	May 1980	1981	1980
STATE OF MONTANA	587	286	2960	2154
GREAT FALLS SMSA	35	24	195	158
BILLINGS SMSA	69	30	380	300
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MULTI-COUNTY	129	41	597	228
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	38	27	182	140
Beaverhead	4	3	34	23
Deer Lodge	6	2	25	9
Granite	2	0	4	6
Madison	10	8	24	23
Powell	3	5	9	20
Silver Bow	13	9	86	59
BOZEMAN LMA	41	12	190	141
Gallatin	30	11	150	103
Meagher	0	0	3	7
Park	11	1	37	31
GLASGOW LMA	22	8	91	68
Daniels	0	0	3	4
Phillips	3	0	14	12
Roosevelt	6	3	27	22
Sheridan	10	3	30	14
Valley	3	2	17	16
GLENDIVE LMA	34	19	159	122
Dawson	9	4	51	34
Garfield	1	0	3	3
McCone	1	0	13	12
Prairie	0	0	2	6
Richland	21	15	85	66
Wibaux	2	0	5	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	14	5	57	49
Big Horn	6	0	12	12
Carbon	2	1	15	14
Stillwater	5	2	23	16
Sweet Grass	1	2	7	7
HAVRE LMA	16	14	92	63
Blaine	4	8	14	19
Hill	11	6	72	36
Liberty	1	0	6	8
HELENA LMA	33	18	186	136
Broadwater	2	2	6	4
Jefferson	4	0	18	8
Lewis and Clark	27	16	162	124
KALISPELL LMA	54	36	282	263
Flathead	32	26	191	177
Lake	8	7	48	44
Lincoln	14	3	43	42
LEWISTOWN LMA	3	6	49	48
Fergus	0	3	24	27
Golden Valley	0	0	0	2
Judith Basin	1	1	4	4
Musselshell	2	2	13	13
Petroleum	0	0	2	1
Wheatland	0	0	6	1
MILES CITY LMA	19	10	89	72
Carter	0	1	2	5
Custer	7	5	37	20
Fallon	1	3	11	23
Powder River	2	0	12	6
Rosebud	9	1	26	17
Treasure	0	0	1	1
MISSOULA LMA	59	18	303	258
Mineral	1	2	7	7
Missoula	43	11	198	185
Ravalli	11	5	74	50
Sanders	4	0	24	16
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	21	18	108	108
Choteau	1	1	10	15
Glacier	10	4	36	32
Pondera	2	2	12	21
Teton	1	3	12	11
Toole	7	8	38	29

Sources of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE: CLAIM TO PAYMENT

Many of those persons who become separated from their jobs, enter our local Job Service offices for two reasons: to seek employment and to claim unemployment insurance (UI) benefits. Claimant wage credits obtained from insured employers are examined to determine if the claim meets monetary eligibility requirements for UI benefits and, if so, for how much per week is the claimant qualified. Monetarily eligible claims are subsequently segregated according to criteria for establishing which party (claimant or employer) was most responsible for the job separation in question. Claims for job separations resulting from claimant actions (issues) are further subjected to the test of whether or not an individuals's reduction in his potential benefit duration is warranted. If otherwise eligible and if availability criteria continue to be complied with throughout his actual unemployment duration, weekly benefit payments will commence with the claimant's second week of unemployment (a waiting week must be served under Montana law). The number and amount of such payments by county are shown in the table on the following page. Interstate payments in the table refer to payments made to individuals who now reside in other states but who had established wage credits in Montana based employment. Amounts shown in the table are financed through employer taxes paid to the Montana UI Trust Fund Account.

ET45-159B DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE

MAY 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	136	13,488.48
BIGHORN	288	27,095.12
BLAINE	171	12,509.32
BROADWATER	59	7,370.00
CARBON	193	20,925.82
CARTER	5	655.00
CASCADE	2,984	296,210.40
CHOUTEAU	29	2,228.00
CUSTER	267	26,826.84
DANIELS	14	1,496.00
DAWSON	39	8,818.00
DEER LODGE	577	58,232.66
FALLON	30	2,586.00
FERGUS	210	17,990.37
FLATHEAD	3,735	379,137.38
GALLATIN	1,244	108,854.02
GARFIELD	0	0.00
GLACIER	754	60,400.71
GOLDEN VALLEY	12	1,135.36
GRANITE	65	6,305.43
HILL	511	43,815.91
JEFFERSON	120	13,253.00
JUDITH BASIN	32	2,621.07
LAKE	529	51,700.18
LEWIS AND CLARK	1,491	138,965.93
LIBERTY	32	3,148.00
LINCOLN	1,703	184,647.15
MCCONE	11	953.00
MADISON	79	9,665.00
MEAGHER	45	4,123.00
MINERAL	170	16,639.98
MISSOULA	4,027	401,030.56
MUSSELSHELL	75	8,057.00
PARK	492	42,592.31
PETROLEUM	7	463.00
PHILLIPS	106	9,582.00
PONDERA	43	4,459.00
POWDER RIVER	5	655.00
POWELL	333	35,240.12
PRAIRIE	23	2,349.51
RAVALLI	1,033	103,340.93
RICHLAND	102	9,148.83
ROOSEVELT	152	14,276.68
ROSEBUD	233	29,765.69
SANDERS	445	38,917.87
SHERIDAN	18	1,623.00
SILVER BOW	1,616	161,556.89
STILLWATER	96	9,077.04
SWEET GRASS	33	3,877.00
TETON	59	6,496.00
TOOLE	77	6,315.00
TREASURE	12	1,296.00
VALLEY	349	36,495.19
WHEATLAND	24	2,315.00
WIBAUX	12	1,257.00
YELLOWSTONE	3,332	330,849.72
INTRASTATE	28,681	2,822,031.59
INTERSTATE	1,254	261,374.19
TOTAL	29,935	3,083,405.78

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
JANUARY 1981 THRU MAY 1981

COUNTY	COUNT	AMOUNT
BEAVERHEAD	1,446	140,923.24
BIGHORN	2,135	216,661.86
BLAINE	1,328	113,533.18
BROADWATER	674	74,360.05
CARBON	1,567	165,276.58
CARTER	41	4,659.00
CASCADE	25,060	2,640,458.23
CHOUTEAU	271	25,578.00
CUSTER	2,436	245,616.28
DANIELS	165	17,803.00
DAWSON	791	79,503.00
DEER LODGE	9,894	1,162,664.08
FALLON	212	18,769.76
FERGUS	2,161	200,781.15
FLATHEAD	22,914	2,239,717.52
GALLATIN	10,346	949,948.59
GARFIELD	19	1,588.00
GLACIER	4,566	385,973.99
GOLDEN VALLEY	90	7,877.00
GRANITE	534	54,402.38
HILL	3,262	299,785.98
JEFFERSON	1,154	124,173.91
JUDITH BASIN	163	16,900.15
LAKE	4,771	440,358.56
LEWIS AND CLARK	10,569	1,021,089.49
LIBERTY	247	23,310.40
LINCOLN	10,134	1,033,896.02
MCCONE	69	5,600.00
MADISON	835	81,110.56
MEAGHER	523	49,495.06
MINERAL	1,673	172,487.96
MISSOULA	29,387	2,934,698.65
MUSSELSHELL	497	49,545.00
PARK	3,631	314,698.68
PETROLEUM	51	3,239.00
PHILLIPS	867	82,818.38
PONDERA	831	82,817.31
POWDER RIVER	101	11,240.00
POWELL	1,830	183,830.98
PRAIRIE	251	26,217.91
RAVALLI	7,111	695,666.37
RICHLAND	611	55,722.93
ROOSEVELT	1,383	126,402.24
ROSEBUD	2,703	294,738.83
SANDERS	3,989	385,750.02
SHERIDAN	171	16,230.00
SILVER BOW	11,595	1,184,568.50
STILLWATER	963	102,823.51
SWEET GRASS	421	45,202.00
TETON	654	67,363.00
TOOLE	710	71,513.07
TREASURE	86	8,894.00
VALLEY	2,330	241,414.92
WHEATLAND	170	15,779.00
WIBAUX	103	10,118.00
YELLOWSTONE	25,358	2,610,745.09
INTRASTATE	215,854	21,641,456.37
INTERSTATE	8,909	1,486,016.72
TOTAL	224,763	23,127,473.09

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE ACTIVITIES IN MONTANA

YEAR-TO-DATE

	1981	1980	Net Change	Percent Change
Initial Claims 1/	21,111	27,748	-6,637	-23.9
Continued Claims 1/	249,214	284,000	-34,786	-12.2
Number of Benefit Payments 1/	224,763	241,604	-16,841	-7.0
Amount of Benefits Paid 1/	$23,127,473	$22,478,860	$648,613	2.9
Average Weekly Benefit Amount 1/ 2/	$110.63	$97.63	$13.00	13.3

MONTHLY

	May 1981	April 1981	May 1980	Change From Year Ago	
				Net	Percent
Initial Claims 1/	3,015	3,653	3,139	-124	-4.0
Continued Claims 1/	33,513	45,804	44,944	-11,428	-25.4
Number of Benefit Payments 1/	29,935	44,875	40,475	-10,540	-26.0
Amount of Benefits Paid 1/	$3,083,406	$4,599,535	$3,858,095	-$774,689	-20.1
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amt 1/ 2/	$111.51	$109.85	$100.67	$10.84	10.8
Trust Fund Balance	$21,535,653	$14,934,511	$17,731,267*	$3,804,386	21.5

1/ *Regular Unemployment Insurance Program only.*
2/ *Derived according to definition in "Handbook of Unemployment Insurance Financial Data".*
* *Excludes Loans from Federal Government, which amount to $7,084,089.*

Initial claims continued to decrease reflected by the 17.5% decline from April to May. The change from May of a year ago is minimal while the year-to-date net change remains quite significant. Continued claims showed a significant decrease for the second straight month--slipping 26.8% from April and 25.4% from May of a year ago.

The number of benefit payments took a dive, decreasing 33.3% from April to May and 26% from May of a year ago. Because of the tremendous reduction in benefit payments, the amount of benefit payments also decreased 33.3% from April to May and 20% from May of a year ago.

The average weekly benefit amount started to creep upward again in May, showing a gain of 1.5% from April and 10.8% from May of a year ago. Effective July 1, 1981 the maximum benefit amount increases to $145 from $131 and the minimum amount will increase from $33 to $36.

The Trust Fund balance continues its climb upward as the first quarter contributions are received and the amount of benefit payments decrease. This is reflected by the Fund increase of 44% from April and 21.5% from May of a year ago.

The year-to-date figures continue on a positive note as initial claims, continued claims, and the number of benefit payments remain considerably less than a year ago. The amount of benefits paid and the average weekly benefit amount remain ahead of last year but the rate of gain has decreased.